

Bioseparation and Bioprocessing

Economics, Safety and Hygiene



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Cover illustration: Three-dimensional model of human choriogonadotropin. The model is based on the crystal structure of deglycosylated hCG⁹ (PDB code 1hrp). The protein part of the molecule (ribbon) and the four N-linked carbohydrate chains (spheres) are shown on the same scale. The oligosaccharides are attached to Asn52 (top, right) and Asn78 (bottom) of the α -subunit (green), and to Asn13 and 30 (top, left) of the β -subunit (blue). The binding region is indicated in red. It should be noted that the spatial orientation of the carbohydrate chains is arbitrarily set as they are not present in the crystal structure. The carboxy-terminal peptide of the β -subunit (amino acid residues 131–145) is not depicted because its 3D-structure could not be deduced from the crystal [Figure reproduced by courtesy of Prof. Dr. P. D. J. Grootenhuys (Dept. of Computational Medicinal Chemistry, N.V. Organon, Oss)]. See also Chapter 5 of this volume.

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Bioseparation and Bioprocessing

**Volume II: Processing,
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Edited by
G. Subramanian



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Preface

Biotechnology represents the confluence of several disciplines. The European Federation of Biotechnology has defined biotechnology as an integrated use of biochemistry, microbiology and chemical engineering in order to achieve the technological (industrial) application of the capacities of microbes and cultured cells. Thus, to produce purified biologically active components really depends on the effective separation process. Within this versatile area of separation it would be incorrect to claim that this book covers the entire field of separation technology comprehensively; it does not; nor is it intended to be used as a textbook for a specific course. This book is intended to project an overview on selected techniques that are actively applied in the biotechnology industries.

The book is organised into three parts containing fifteen chapters contributed by experienced scientists. The first eight chapters in part one gives an overview of various aspects in processing methods that are applied in the industries for the production of bioactive compounds. Quality and characterisation are addressed in chapters 9, 10, 11 and 12. (Part two). Part three consisting of chapters 13, 14, and 15 deals with Economics, Safety and Hygiene.

It is my hope that this volume will bring together accumulated knowledge in a way which will promote the advancement of technology, which will continue to grow and develop on the basis of fascinating discoveries in the control and separation of biomolecules to create technologies that are useful to society.

I gratefully acknowledge the authors for their time and motivation in preparing their contributions, without which this volume would not have been possible. I should be most grateful for any suggestions which could serve to improve future editions of this book.

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January 1998

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Contents

Part One: Processing

1	Strategies in Downstream Processing	3
	<i>Yusuf Chisti</i>	
1.1	Introduction	3
1.2	Overview of Process Considerations	4
1.3	Product Quality and Purity Specifications	7
1.3.1	Endotoxins	8
1.3.2	Residual DNA	8
1.3.3	Microorganisms and Viruses	9
1.3.4	Other Contaminants	9
1.4	Impact of Fermentation on Recovery	10
1.4.1	Characteristics of Broth and Microorganism	10
1.4.2	Product Concentration	12
1.4.3	Combined Fermentation-Recovery Schemes	13
1.5	Initial Separations and Concentration	13
1.6	Intracellular Products	16
1.7	Some Specific Bioseparations	17
1.7.1	Precipitation	17
1.7.2	Foam Fractionation	18
1.7.3	Solvent Extraction	18
1.7.4	Aqueous Liquid-Liquid Extraction and its Variants	19
1.7.5	Membrane Separations	20
1.7.6	Electrically Enhanced Bioseparations	21
1.7.7	Chromatographic Separations	22
1.8	Recombinant and other Proteins	23
1.8.1	Inclusion Body Proteins	25
1.9	Conclusions	27
	Abbreviations and Symbols	27
	References	28

2	Protein Stability in Downstream Processing	31
	<i>Kim Hejnaes, Finn Matthiesen and Lars Skriver</i>	
2.1	Introduction	31
2.2	Protein Stability	32
2.2.1	The Native State	32
2.2.2	The Molten Globule State	33
2.2.3	The Unfolded State	34
2.3	Chemical and Physical Instability	34
2.3.1	Proteolytic Degradation	34
2.3.2	N-terminal Degradation	36
2.3.3	Non-Enzymatic Hydrolysis	36
2.3.4	Deamidation	36
2.3.5	β -Elimination	39
2.3.6	Racemization	39
2.3.7	Conversion of Arginine to Ornithine	40
2.3.8	Oxidation	41
2.3.9	Cysteinyl and Cystinyl Residues	42
2.3.10	Denaturation	44
2.3.11	Aggregation	45
2.3.12	Precipitation	46
2.4	Essential Parameters	47
2.4.1	The Effect of pH	47
2.4.2	The Effect of Temperature	49
2.4.3	The Effect of Redox Potential	50
2.4.4	The Effect of Co-solvents	55
2.4.5	The Effect of Protein Concentration	57
2.4.6	The Effect of Pressure	58
2.5	Summary	58
	Acknowledgements	60
	Abbreviations and Symbols	60
	References	61
3	Production of Transgenic Protein	67
	<i>Gordon Wright and John Noble</i>	
3.1	Introduction	67
3.2	Overview of Transgenic Technology	67
3.3	Process Design	69
3.3.1	Animal Handling	70
3.3.2	Milking	70
3.3.3	Milk Handling	71
3.3.4	Primary Recovery	71
3.3.5	Polishing Steps	72

3.3.6	Formulation and Filling	72
3.3.7	Viral-Specific Steps	72
3.3.8	Utilities	72
3.3.8.1	Water	73
3.3.8.2	Cleaning and Sanitization	73
3.3.8.3	Sterilization	74
3.4	Facility Design	74
3.4.1	Overview of Facility Design	74
3.4.2	Animal Housing and Milking	75
3.4.3	Milk Handling	75
3.4.4	Primary Recovery and Polishing	75
3.4.5	Formulation and Finishing	76
3.4.6	Overview of Building Finishes and HVAC	76
3.4.7	Site Planning Issues	76
3.5	cGMP and Regulatory Issues	77
3.5.1	Good Manufacturing Practice	77
3.5.2	Containment of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)	78
	References	78
4	Harvesting Recombinant Protein Inclusion Bodies	81
	<i>Anton P.J. Middelberg and Brian K. O'Neill</i>	
4.1	Introduction	81
4.2	What is an Inclusion Body?	81
4.2.1	Inclusion Body Formation	82
4.2.2	Inclusion Body Composition	82
4.2.3	Size and Density of Inclusion Bodies	83
4.3	Properties of Cellular Debris	84
4.4	Process Synthesis	85
4.4.1	Laboratory-scale Processes	85
4.4.2	Considerations in Synthesizing a Large-scale Process	86
4.4.2.1	Protein Refolding	87
4.4.2.2	Inclusion Body Recovery	88
4.5	Filtration	90
4.5.1	Modes of Filtration	90
4.5.2	Theory	91
4.5.3	Commercial Equipment and Operating Parameters	92
4.5.4	Inclusion Body Recovery by Filtration	93
4.6	Centrifugation	94
4.6.1	Modes of Centrifugation	94
4.6.2	Commercial Centrifugation Equipment	95
4.6.3	Theory	96
4.6.4	Scale-up and Scale-down of Centrifuges	98
4.6.5	Inclusion Body Recovery by Centrifugation	99

4.7	Alternatives to Inclusion Body Recovery	102
	Abbreviations and Symbols	104
	References	105
5	The Application of Glycobiology for the Generation of Recombinant Glycoprotein Therapeutics	107
	<i>Jan B. L. Damm</i>	
5.1	Introduction	107
5.2	Structure and Function of Glycoproteins	110
5.2.1	Difficulties in Establishing Carbohydrate Structure-Function Relationships	115
5.2.2	Glycosylation-associated Effects on the Properties of Glycoprotein Drugs	116
5.3	Glyco-engineering	118
5.3.1	Glyco-engineering at the DNA level	120
5.3.1.1	Carbohydrate Structure and Protein Backbone	120
5.3.1.2	Choice of the Host Cell	121
5.3.1.3	Selection of a Glycosylation Mutant	123
5.3.2	Glyco-engineering at the Biosynthesis Level	124
5.3.3	Glyco-engineering at the Product Level	125
5.4	Conclusion and Perspectives	125
	Acknowledgement	126
	References	127
6	The Release of Intracellular Bioproducts	131
	<i>Anton P. J. Middelberg</i>	
6.1	Introduction	131
6.2	Cell Wall Destruction	131
6.2.1	Cell Wall Structure	131
6.2.2	Strategies for Cell Disruption	134
6.2.3	Quantifying Cell Disruption	135
6.2.3.1	Direct Measurement of Disruption	135
6.2.3.2	Indirect Methods	135
6.2.3.3	Selecting a Method	136
6.3	Chemical Disruption	137
6.3.1	Antibiotics	137
6.3.2	Chelating Agents	137
6.3.3	Chaotropic Agents	137
6.3.4	Detergents	138
6.3.5	Alkaline Treatment	139
6.4	Enzymatic Disruption	139

6.5	Physical Methods of Cell Disruption	140
6.6	High-pressure Homogenization	141
6.6.1	Operational Parameters	141
6.6.2	Commercial Equipment	142
6.6.3	Cell Treatments Before Homogenization	142
6.6.4	Predicting Disruption	144
6.6.5	The Importance of Homogenizer Valve Design	145
6.7	Bead Milling	147
6.7.1	Operational Parameters	148
6.7.2	Commercial Equipment	149
6.7.3	Predicting Disruption	149
6.7.4	The Importance of Agitator Design	153
6.8	Other Methods of Mechanical Disruption	155
6.9	Downstream Impacts of Cell Disruption	157
6.9.1	Debris Size Analysis	157
6.9.2	Predicting Debris Size	159
	Abbreviations and Symbols	161
	References	162
7	Microcarriers in Cell Culture Produktion	165
	<i>Björn Lundgren and Gerald Blüml</i>	
7.1	Introduction	165
7.2	Production Considerations	167
7.2.1	Production Economy	167
7.2.2	Consumable Cost Comparison	167
7.2.2.1	Culture Surface	167
7.2.2.2	Serum and Additives	168
7.2.3	Important Developments	169
7.3	Microcarrier Background	169
7.3.1	Adhesion (Cell–Cell, Cell–Surface)	169
7.3.2	Immobilization Principles	170
7.3.3	Materials	172
7.3.4	Size Shape Diffusion Limits	172
7.3.5	Specific Density and Sedimentation Velocity	175
7.3.6	Rigidity and Shear Force	176
7.3.7	Porosity	176
7.3.8	Cell Observations	178
7.4	Microcarrier Technology	180
7.4.1	Microcarrier History	180
7.4.2	Advantages of Microcarriers	181
7.4.3	Disadvantages of Microcarriers	183
7.4.4	Types	183
7.4.5	Scale-up Considerations	184

7.4.6	Choice of Supplier	186
7.4.7	The 'Ideal' Microcarrier	186
7.5	Microcarrier Culture Equipment	187
7.5.1	Unit Process Systems	187
7.5.2	Small-scale Equipment	188
7.5.3	Large-scale Equipment – Stirred Tanks (Low Density)	190
7.5.4	Packed Beds	191
7.5.5	Fluidized Beds	193
7.5.5.1	Fluidized Bed With External Circulation	193
7.5.5.2	Cytopilot – Fluidized Bed With Internal Circulation	194
7.5.5.3	Fluidization and Fluidization Velocity	195
7.6	Culture Conditions	196
7.6.1	Media and Components	196
7.6.2	pH	197
7.6.3	Dissolved Oxygen	197
7.6.4	Redox Potential	198
7.6.5	Stirring	198
7.6.6	Control and Feeding Strategies	199
7.7	Microcarriers in Practice	200
7.7.1	Preparation of Carriers	200
7.7.2	Microcarrier Concentrations	200
7.7.3	Inoculum	201
7.7.4	Cell Quantification	203
7.7.5	Scale-up	204
7.7.5.1	Harvesting	205
7.7.5.2	Colonization	207
7.7.5.3	Suspension	208
7.7.5.4	Documentation	208
7.8	Optimizing Culture Conditions	209
7.9	Trouble-shooting	210
7.9.1	Stirred Microcarrier Cultures	210
7.9.2	Fluidized Bed Trouble-shooting	212
7.10	Applications	212
7.10.1	Vaccines	215
7.10.2	Natural and Recombinant Proteins	216
7.10.2.1	Comparison of Carriers in Different Reactors (Packed Bed or Fluidized Bed Reactor)	217
7.10.3	Monoclonal Antibodies	218
7.10.3.1	Comparison of Anti-HIV Monoclonal Antibody Productivity with Different Processes	218
7.10.3.2	Comparison of a Hollow Fiber Reactor with a Fluidized Bed Reactor	219
7.11	Potential Future Applications	219
	References	220

8 Purification and Characterization of Monoclonal Antibodies 223

Paul Matejtschuk, Rose M. Baker and George E. Chapman

8.1	Introduction	223
8.2	Methods of MAb Production	224
8.3	Purification	225
8.3.1	Initial Considerations	225
8.3.1.1	Intended Use	225
8.3.1.2	Culture Method	226
8.3.1.3	Contaminants	226
8.3.1.4	Scale	227
8.3.1.5	Cost	228
8.3.2	The Purification Scheme	228
8.3.2.1	Clarification/Concentration	230
8.3.2.2	Chromatography	231
8.3.2.3	Other Purification Systems	233
8.3.3	Large Scale	233
8.3.3.1	Scale-up	233
8.3.3.2	GMP and Validation	235
8.3.3.3	Control and Automation	235
8.3.4	Future Developments	236
8.4	Characterization	236
8.4.1	The Need for Characterization	236
8.4.2	Aspects of MAb Characterization	237
8.4.2.1	Primary Sequence	237
8.4.2.2	Sequencing Strategies	238
8.4.2.3	Peptide Mapping	239
8.4.2.4	Mass Spectrometry of MAbs	241
8.4.2.5	C-Terminal Sequencing	241
8.4.2.6	Secondary and Higher Structure	242
8.4.2.7	Functional Activity	242
8.4.2.8	Stability	243
8.4.2.9	Glycosylation	246
8.5	Conclusions	247
	References	248

Part Two: Quality and Characterization

9	Biological Standardization of Interferons and Other Cytokines	255
	<i>Anthony Meager</i>	
9.1	Introduction	255
9.2	Interferons	257
9.2.1	Background Information: Definitions, Designations and Characterization	257
9.2.2	Characteristics of IFNs for Clinical Use	258
9.3	Interferon Standardization	260
9.3.1	Basic Principles of Biological Standardization	260
9.3.2	Bioassays for IFNs	262
9.3.3	Design of Bioassays	265
9.4	Interferon Standards	266
9.5	Cytokine Standards	270
9.6	Conclusions	272
	Acknowledgements	272
	References	272
10	The Strategic Role of Assays in Process Development: A Case Study of Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization Mass Spectroscopy as a Tool for Biopharmaceutical Development	275
	<i>T. J. Meyers, P. G. Varley, A. Binieda, J. A. Purvis and N. R. Burns</i>	
10.1	Introduction	275
10.2	Materials and Methods	276
10.2.1	Validation Study	277
10.2.2	Statistical Analysis	278
10.2.3	In-process Analysis	278
10.3	Results	278
10.3.1	Identity Test – Validation	278
10.3.2	Applications In-Process	280
10.4	Discussion	288
	References	290

11	Quality Control of Protein Primary Structure by Automated Sequencing and Mass Spectrometry	291
	<i>Philip J. Jackson and Stephen J. Bayne</i>	
11.1	Introduction	291
11.2	Automated Edman Degradation	291
11.2.1	Chemistry	292
11.2.2	Sample Preparation	296
11.2.2.1	Compatibility with Edman Chemistry	296
11.2.2.2	Manipulation of Samples in Solution	298
11.2.2.3	Polyacrylamide Gel Electrophoresis (PAGE)	299
11.2.2.4	Covalent Immobilization	300
11.2.3	Data Analysis	301
11.3	Carboxy Terminal Analysis	306
11.3.1	Automated Chemical Degradation	307
11.3.2	Enzymatic Degradation	308
11.3.3	Mass Analysis	309
11.4	Mass Spectrometry	310
11.4.1	FAB-MS	313
11.4.2	PDMS	314
11.4.3	ESMS	315
11.4.4	MALDI-MS	317
11.5	Protein Fragmentation	319
11.6	Summary and Future Prospects	321
	Acknowledgements	321
	References	322
12	General Strategies for the Characterization of Carbohydrates from Recombinant Glycoprotein Therapeutics	325
	<i>Gerrit J. Gerwig and Jan B. L. Damm</i>	
12.1	Introduction	325
12.2	Functions of Glycoprotein Glycans	325
12.2.1	Transport, Stabilizing, Protecting and Structural Functions	326
12.2.2	Storage Function	327
12.2.3	Masking Functions	327
12.2.4	Receptor Functions	328
12.2.5	Regulation of Clearance	328
12.2.6	Tuning of Biological Activity	328
12.3	Types of Carbohydrate Chains in Glycoproteins	329
12.3.1	Structure of N-linked Carbohydrate Chains	331
12.3.2	Structure of O-linked Carbohydrate Chains	333
12.3.3	Structure of Glycosylphosphatidylinositol Anchors	334