

New Developments in Capillary Electrophoresis with focus on Bioanalysis

Lecture 4

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Lecture Today

- Focus on analysis of protein isoforms
- Special focus on carbohydrate analysis
- Applications in
 - Pharmaceutical industry
 - Diagnostics

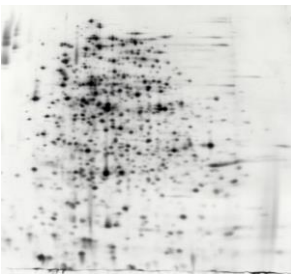
CE of proteins

- Proteins are modified after formation
 - Post translational modifications (PTMs)
- The proteins are modified during there lifetime
- A protein often consist of many closely related isoforms
 - Heterogeneous mixture due to differential PTMs

CE of proteins

- 2 dimensional SDS-PAGE in combination with mass spectrometry is a common tool in proteomics
- Separation techniques with high peak capacity is needed due to the huge amount of proteins.
 - High amount of proteins
 - Protein isoforms increase the complexity

2D Electrophoresis



Usually isoelectric point (IEF) and molecular weight (SDS-PAGE) is the basis of separation

Robots can be used to isolate protein spots for mass spectrometry analysis

CE of proteins

- One dimensional separation not enough for more complicated separation tasks.
- Two ortogonal techniques increase the peak capacity.

CE of proteins

- High resolution mass spectrometry important for identification of proteins.
 - High resolution MS (for example Orbitrap)
 - Identification of complex molecules (for example intact glycoproteins)
- MS can be combined with on capillary detection for quantification

Post translational modifications

- Not coded in the DNA.
- Instead the state of the cell determines how the proteins are modified
 - Presence of enzymes
 - Presence of reactants.

Post translational modification

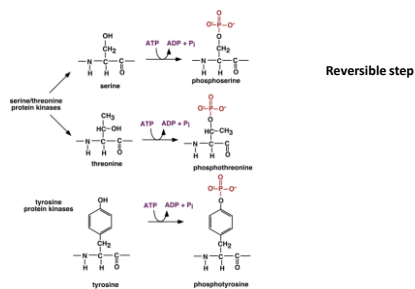
For example:

- Phosphorylation
- Glycosylation
- Ubiquitination

Protein phosphorylation

- Regulation of kinases and phosphatases.
 - Regulate phosphorylation
 - Important for many signalling pathways
- Phosphorylation can activate or deactivate enzymes
- Important for regulation of the metabolism

Protein phosphorylation

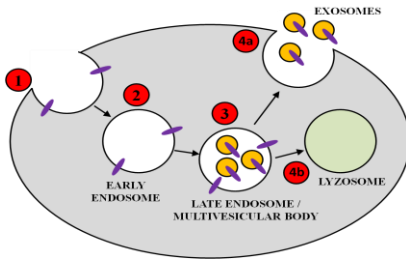


Ubiquitination

- Important for degradation of proteins
- Important for sorting in the endosomes

Importance of PTMs

Sorting of proteins in the endosomes



Exosomes

- 40-100 nm vesicles
- Exosomes are released when multivesicular bodies fuse with the plasma membrane
- Contain
 - Proteins
 - miRNA
 - mRNA

Exosomes

- The composition is dependent of
 - Type of Cell of origin
 - State of cell of origin
- The content of the exosomes can be transported between cells
 - The content is active in the receiving cell

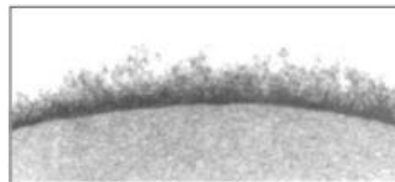
Glycosylation of proteins

- Significant amount of the mass of a glycoprotein
- Most abundant form of PTM
- Important for cell-cell communication

Protein glycosylation

- Alteration in glycosylation can change the biological activity of a glycoprotein
- Glycosylation of insulin – might be important in diabetes

Glycosylation



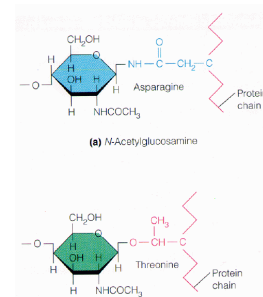
Electron micrograph of a glycocalyx

Thick carbohydrate coating that surround virtually all cells. Composed of protein- and lipid-bound oligosaccharides.

Glycosylation of proteins

- N-linked – via the amines of asparagines
- O-linked – via the hydroxyl group of serines and threonines
 - Blood groups – O-linked glycans

Glycosylation of proteins



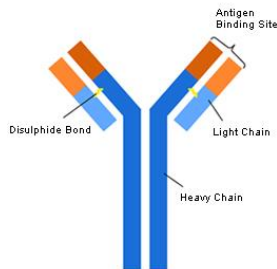
Glycoproteins as recombinant drugs

- Glycosylation patterns important for function
- Important to control production procedure
- Glycosylation profiles may vary based on the host system used for production
- Host system not the same cell machinery as humans.
- Analytical methods to analyze differences in glycosylation patterns

Glycoproteins as recombinant drugs

- Cell culture conditions may have a significant effect on glycosylation
- Batch-to-batch consistency

Monoclonal antibodies



SDS-CGE

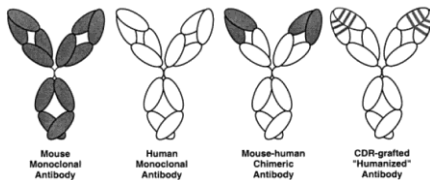
- For recombinant monoclonal antibodies
- Addition of N-linked carbohydrate chain to the heavy chain of IgG.
- Reduced fragments of IgG can be analyzed to decrease complexity

Recombinant monoclonal antibodies

- Growing industry
- High specificity makes antibodies excellent for human therapy
- Immune system to fight diseases
- Recombinant production is an alternative to production in mice

Monoclonal antibodies

- Humanize monoclonal antibodies



Applications of MABs

- Treatment of cancer
 - MABs that bind to cancer cell-specific antigens and induce an immunological response against target cancer cells.
- Treatment of autoimmune diseases

Humanized mAb

- The complementary regions, which are the responsible for antigen binding within the variable regions, have been transferred to human frameworks creating “humanized” antibodies. This is, in essence a human Ab with small segments containing mouse Ab genes.

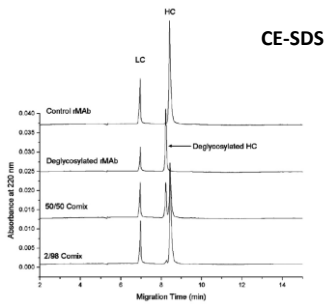
Applications of MABs

- Diagnostic tests
 - Detect the presence of a substance
 - Useful for detecting a antigen in tissue section
- Therapy
 - Specific binding to target cells or proteins
 - Stimulate the immune system to attack those targets.

Therapeutic proteins

- During production and shelf life of therapeutic proteins, several PTMs can occur:
 - for example deamidation, oxidation and proteolytic cleavages

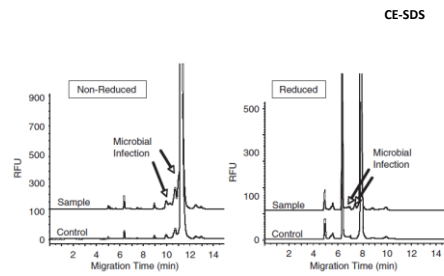
Recombinant monoclonal antibodies



Glycosylation relatively large in size.
Important to detect glycosylation at low levels.

Recombinant monoclonal antibodies

Detecting impurities



CE-SDS

- SDS can also be used to evaluate heterogeneity, purity and manufacturing consistency
- Linear or slightly branched polymers: polyacrylamide, polyethylene oxide, polyethylene glycol, dextran.
- Add flexibility, water soluble, replaceable after each analysis
- CE-SDS with fluorescence detection, to replace silver staining
- However, less compatible with MS

Separation of variants of human growth hormone

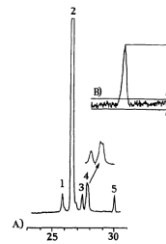


Fig. 1. (A) Typical electropherogram of an artificial mixture of hGH and its related products. Peaks: 1 = cleaved hGH; 2 = hGH; 3 = (2n) hAGH; 4 = dimerized hGH; 5 = N-acyl-hGH. (B) Determination of the detection limit for the N-acylated hGH obtained with a concentration of 5.2 µg/ml (N = 70 min gave LOD = 1.45 µg/ml, S = 13 min gave LOQ = 4.8 µg/ml).

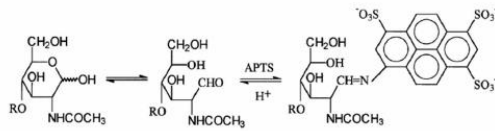
Carbonhydrate analysis by CE-LIF

- Glycosylation important for function of rMABs
- Consistant glycosylation required by legislation
- Chromophore introduced to carbonhydrate
 - Also add a charge

Carbonhydrate analysis by CE-LIF

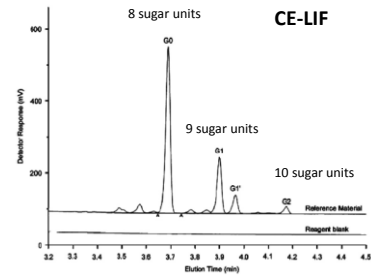
- Procedure – Oligosaccharides on rMABs
 - Enzymatic removal of oligosaccharides
 - Derivatisation with APTS
 - Analyze

Carbohydrate analysis by CE-LIF



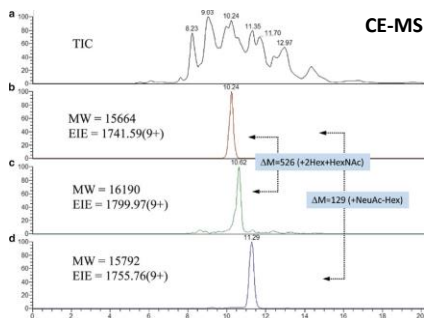
- Reductive amination
- Sugar reducing ends only
- ex. 488 nm / em 520 nm LIF, excellent sensitivity
- Simple, one step reaction
- Great efficiency (over 90%) under optimized conditions (reagent concentration, time, temperature, pH, solvent)
- Non-selective: uniform labeling for most structures
- Easy quantification: one fluorophore per sugar molecule

Example of glycan analysis



Analysis of intact protein

Recombinant human chorionic gonadotropin (rHCG)



2D separation

- CE a high-speed / high-efficiency technique
- Ideal as the last dimension in a multidimension system
- Reversed phase LC frequently coupled to CZE
 - Orthogonal in separation mechanism
 - Solvents in HPLC and buffers in CE reasonable compatible.

2D-CE

- For separation of proteins and peptides
- Can be used for studies of single cells
- Fluorescent labeling of proteins/peptides

Capillary isoelectric focusing

- High resolution/peak capacity
- Make it suitable for analysis of complex protein mixtures.
- A good option as one dimension in 2D-CE

2D separation

Two-Dimensional (2D) Capillary Electrophoresis (CE) Systems

| | 2D mode | Detector | Interface | Sample |
|-------|---------------|----------------|---|--|
| LC-CE | RPLC-CZE | MS | Valve-free hydrodynamic sampling device | Liver cancer tissue |
| | RPLC-MEKC | UV | Dynamic interface with pulse contact | Traditional Chinese medicine |
| | RPLC-CIEF | LIF | Fractionation | Yeast cell cytosol |
| | RPLC-chip CZE | LIF | Valve-free gating interface | BSA |
| | RPLC-CZE | LIF | Six-port valve interface | Ovalbumin |
| | SEC-CZE | UV | Transverse flow-gated interface | Thyroglobulin, BSA, chicken egg albumin, myoglobin |
| | RPLC-CZE | LIF | Transverse flow-gated interface | A mixture of phenylalanine and glutamic |
| | RPLC-CZE-MS | ESI-MS | Transverse flow-gated interface | Glycosylated peptide mixtures |
| | RPLC-CZE | LIF | Optical-gated interface | Horse heart cytochrome c |
| | SEC-RPLC-CZE | LIF | Off-line | Cytochrome c, myoglobin |
| | RPLC-CZE | UV | C18 trapping column | Enkephalins in cerebrospinal fluid |
| | SEC-CZE | UV | C18 trapping column | Enkephalins in cerebrospinal fluid |
| | CIEF-RPLC | UV | Microinjector | Soluble fraction of drosophila salivary glands |
| | GFC-CIEF | Column imaging | Microdialysis interface | Myoglobin, bovine serum albumin |