Techniques in Molecular Genetics

2013 edition

H.E. Schellhorn

Day 1

- Introduction
 - Why are we here?
 - Overview
 - Teaching Coordinator, Teaching Assistants
 - Changes for 2013
 - Techniques
 - Use of a Pipetman
 - Streak a culture, Make some media
 - DNA Management Software

Course Rationale

This course is primarily aimed at students who are starting to work in molecular biology research mainly Biology and Molecular Biology student who have completed third year and are working in the Biology department during the summer. The formal part of the course, consisting of two weeks of laboratory/lecture, runs the first two weeks of May.

The objective is to provide participants with formal instruction in the scientific process including laboratory techniques that they need to accomplish their research objectives. By combining theory with practice, much duplication in instruction among labs will be eliminated.

Instructors



Dr. H.E. Schellhorn



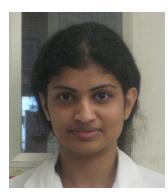
Ms. Alison Cowie



Jas Wasniewski



Sarah Chaing



Sharmila Sathiasothy

Significant Changes for 2013

Addition of Realtime PCR talk and Assignment

Grading Scheme

Quiz I 20% (May 7th, days 1-4)

Quiz II 30% (May 14th, days 1-9)

Overnight 10%

Rotation Assignments 10%

Course performance 10%

Lab notebook 20%

Use and understand the principle of the following laboratory equipment/tools...

- Laboratory notebook.
- Centrifuge.
- Spectrophotometer.
- Image analysis.
- Scanner.
- Scintillation counter.
- Autoclave.
- pH meter.
- PCR cycler.

- Transilluminator.
- Balance.
- Analytical balance.
- Sonicator.
- Gel dryer.
- Computer.
- Web tools.
- Spreadsheets

Potential Overnight assignments...

- Use Refworks to write a short essay...
- Write an SOP/AUP
- Read "instructions to authors" and answer a short quiz
- Prepare a table comparing protein methods
- Prepare a table comparing graph types
- Prepare a publication quality graph
- Prepare an order sheet for purchase of chemicals
- Write and submit Primer, DNA sequencing order

Wiki/Website

- Part will be public...some parts will require a login in.
- Include product manuals (PDFs), assay manuals (PDFs) reference tables, calculators and sample spreadsheets.
- Will also include web resource for each technique.

Practical

- Why do experiments fail?
- How to plan experiments
- Where to store samples.

4XX3: Lab Rules and Organization

NO FOOD

Lab coat: General safety, and biosafety level 2 tissue culture work

Safety equipment: Fire, Eye wash, shower

Safety goggles: for acid/base handling, fume hood for HCI, SDS, BME

Gloves: for handling of acrylamide, acid, basis, ethidium bromide

biosafety level 2 tissue culture work

Clean balances!!!

Waste: biological waste vs non-biological waste

Reasoning

- Scientific method
- The falsifiable hypothesis-Popper
- What makes a good (powerful) hypothesis?
- Induction/deduction Reasoning (specific to the general)
- Predictive models
- Theory/Proven fact
- Cause vs correlation
- Reductionist/holistic
- Science/Magic
- Orthogonality
- Conjecture vs plausible explanation

Ethics

- Plagiarism—degrees of plagiarism, recent examinations of the problem
- Fraud
- Accreditation
- Misunderstanding

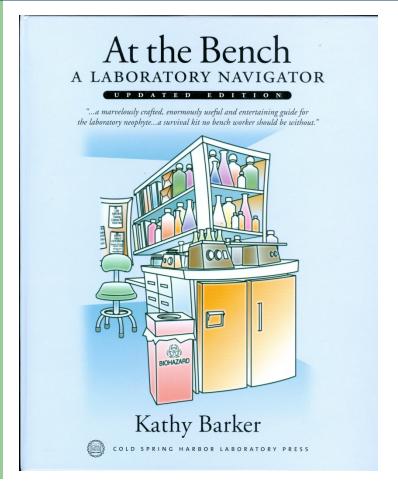
The 10 most common mistakes made in laboratory research. (HES)

- 1. Failing to promptly write up experiments and write out protocol before hand.
- 2. Failing to include the proper controls.
- 3. Not preparing enough material.
- 4. Failing to store properly store material promptly.
- 5. Allowing a distraction to screw up the addition of a key reagent.
- 6. Improper (usually insufficient) mixing or agitation. esp. frozen reagents.
- 7. Not discussing results with your supervisor/colleague before proceeding to the next step.
- 8. Not checking the accuracy of pipettor/pH meter (or other instrument....) before assay.
- 9. Calculation error made in making up reagent (factors of ten/failure to take into account water of hydration in calculation).
- 10. Calculation error made in determination of results.
- 11. Not labelling tubes/dishes etc.

Documentation

- keep a copy of all protocols
- must be able to document primary literature references
- must include details of all experiments
- must have original protocol and your own protocol that is sufficient to allow another person to reproduce the experiment

Recommended book



There are very few books that described the laboratory environment for new researchers. "At the Bench" is probably one of the best and I recommend that you either buy or, perhaps preferably, ask you supervisor to but it for the lab.

1

General Lab Organization and Procedures

ELCOHE TO ONE of the most exciting and enjoyable workplaces ever evolved, the biomedical research laboratory. There is an amazing concept in operation here: You get paid or get credit for doing experiments, surely an almost scandalously delightful way to make a living. The work is worthwhile. The dress code, if any, is caula. The work hours are often self-determined and based on the needs of the experiment. The labor department is filled with bright and interesting people with whom you can discuss the salt concentration needed for a kinase assay or the implications of the latest congressional bill. It can come to have all the psychological conforts of home.

THE BIG PICTURE	4
LABORATORY PERSONNEL	5
LAB ROUTINES	7
Hours	8
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Laboratory tasks, lab jobs, assigned jobs	9
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WHAT TO EXPECT THE FIRST WEEK	10
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SURVIVAL THROUGH COMMON SENSE	
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Basic survival rules: Attitude	15
Basic survival rules: Courtesy at the bench	16
NONNEGOTIABLE SAFETY RULES	17
RESOURCES	19

chological comforts of home.

Like any complex social organizations, research laboratories have their own customs and rules. The difficulty is that the rules have been unspoken. You are expected to decipher the many obtuse clues and become a law-abiding member of a society in which individualism is highly prized. Although no one is expected to show you how to work the equipment, you will be expected to work it. In a profession in which communication of data is the goal and the reward of the research, not all people can communicate with you clearly and satisfactorily. Don't worry, you will manage! In a short time, the pleasure of working together with colleagues on interesting and similar projects will supplant any initial feelings of unease. But to get your work done well, you must first navigate among sometimes vague and mixed signals and learn how your laboratory beats and hums.

3

Presentations

- Basic area why is it of general interest?
- Background relevant observations
- Hypothesis being tested make a clear statement
- Describe basic experimental approach including methodology and alternative methodology
- Present results describe the results and compare, when appropriate, to your own work and to literature results

Dissemination of Results

before computers

 rough results presented first and results for publication drafted later

today

 publication can be made directly from raw data

For the student:

- standardized instruction
- familiarity with departmental equipment
- appreciation for expectation of performance
- coupling of theoretical with practical training
- can concentrate on practical material without the distraction of other courses

For the professor

- reduction in need for instruction
- increased productivity of student during the summer..

Supervisor Expectations...

- Read the literature
- Ask questions (be inquisitive..)
- Keep regular hours (at least until you publish a paper..)
- Give lab talks (with enthusiasm..)
- Produce final tables/figures
- Organize data—cross references to computer files
- Properly store samples (archival if necessary)
- Properly dispose of samples.
- Be Intellectually Engaged!!!!

Supervisor Expectations...

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- Ask questions (be inquisitive..)
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- Give lab talks (with enthusiasm..)
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- Organize data—cross references to computer files
- Properly store samples (archival if necessary)
- Properly dispose of samples.
- Be Intellectually Engaged!!!!

Student Expectations...

- Reference Letter
- Valuable Experience
- A Paycheck...

Materials

- lab page from HES first labbook
- At the bench
- Gilson Guide to Pipetting
- Protocol sheet
- Handouts

Thesis

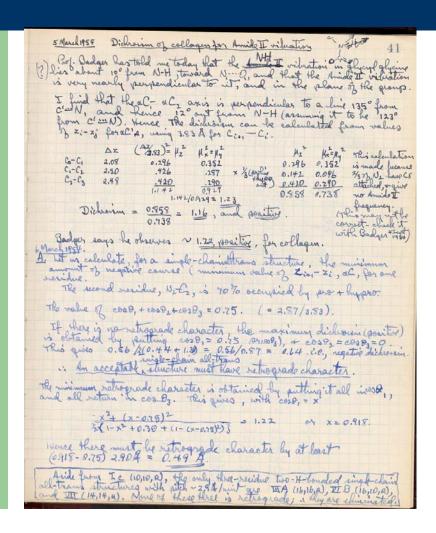
- Use "Table of Contents" function in Word
- Use Reference Manager or equivalent (Refworks)
- Protocols (Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)
- Appendices (raw data)

- Handouts
- Chapter 1
- Top ten list
- Protocol sample
- Flowcharts
- Sample lab book
- Merck index
- Organization of data in spreadsheet
- Software tools

Laboratory notebook

- 1. Title: e.g. Lab #1 Microscopy and Examination of Living and Stained Cultures
- 2. Introduction: <u>Briefly</u> state why this experiment was conducted in your own words do not copy the lab manual.
- 3. Objective: <u>Briefly</u> state what you are attempting to determine 4. Materials and Methods: If same as the manual then refer to the lab manual. If different from the manual state the differences. For your own understanding use flow charts to illustrate procedures.
- 5. Results: If possible, use table(s) and/or figure(s) to present raw data. **Provide brief** descriptions of what the data mean.
- 6. Discussion: <u>Briefly</u> discuss what you can conclude from your results. Sometimes experiments fail either because of an unanticipated variable or because of experimental error. If your results deviate from expectations, identify possible sources of error, provide alternative hypotheses, and suggest improvements for future experiments.
- 7. Questions: Briefly answer the questions given at the end of each lab.
- 8. Fill in the table of contents to permit easy orientation.
- 9. Sign and date each page. Signature of lab partners or advisors must be included. However, this is an essential procedure in government and industry labs.
- 10. Answer the Lab Rotation questions on the pages indicated.

Linus Pauling (Nobel Laureate) maintained labnotes....



http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/specialcollections/rnb/



As with many scientists, Linus Pauling utilized bound notebooks to keep track of the details of his research as it unfolded. A testament to the remarkable length and diversity of Dr. Pauling's career, the Pauling Papers holdings include forty-six research notebooks spanning the years of 1922 to 1994 and covering any number of the scientific fields in which Dr. Pauling involved himself. In this regard, the notebooks contain many of Pauling's laboratory calculations and experimental data, as well as scientific conclusions, ideas for further research and numerous autobiographical musings.

Research Notebook 01 1922

Research Notebook 02 1922-1923, 1932, 1934, 1936, 1973, 1985

Research Notebook 03 1923-1925

Research Notebook 04 1923-1924, 1928-1930

Research Notebook 05 1924, 1929, 1933, 1935

Research Notebook 06

1929-1930, 1934

Research Notebook 07 1930, 1932-1934, 1936

Research Notebook 08 1930-1931, 1933, 1935-1936

Research Notebook 09

1932, 1934-1938, 1940-1941 Research Notebook 10

1933-1934, 1936, 1938

Research Notebook 13

1935-1936, 1938-1939

Research Notebook 14 1936-1939, 1949, 1952

Research Notebook 15

1935, 1937, 1968

Research Notebook 16

1935-1956

Research Notebook 17

1939-1941, 1971, 1988

Research Notebook 18

1936, 1938, 1955, 1967-1969,

1971-1975, 1978 Research Notebook 19

1941-1942, 1944, 1949, 1955-1956,

1941-1942, 1944, 1949, 1955-1956 1959-1960, 1965, 1967,

1976-1978, 1980-1981

Research Notebook 20

1950, 1955-1960

Research Notebook 21

1958

Research Notebook 24

1953, 1956, 1962, 1963, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1973

Research Notebook 25

1958, 1964-1966

Research Notebook 26

1955, 1964-1969, 1974-1976, 1980-1982, 1987, 1990-1991

Research Notebook 27

1952-1954, 1960-1961, 1964, 1971-1972

Research Notebook 28 1951, 1953-1957, 1972-1975

Research Notebook 29

1957, 1986-1988

Research Notebook 30

1954-1958

Research Notebook 31 1966-1971, 1974-1976, 1980

Research Notebook 32

1965-1968, 1974

Research Notebook 35b

1938-1939, 1946, 1955, 1968, 1986-1988

Research Notebook 36

1980-1981, 1986-1987

Research Notebook 37

1971, 1983

Research Notebook 38 1980-1981, 1983, 1985, 1989

Research Notebook 39

1980-1981

Research Notebook 40

1988-1989

Research Notebook 41

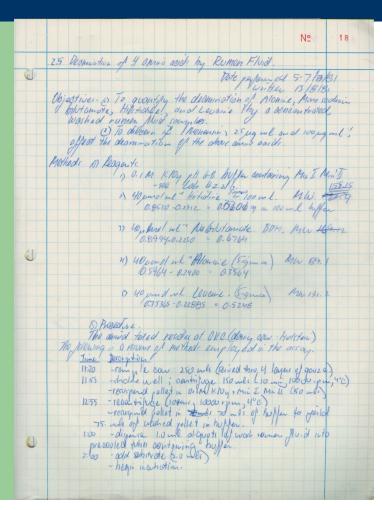
1989-1990

Research Notebook 42 1990

Research Notebook 43

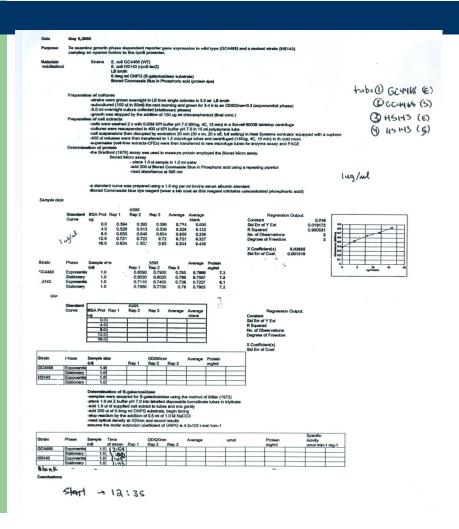
Research Notebook 44

My first lab book....



It is more important that notebooks be complete than neat (although that latter is nice too...).

How spreadsheet can be adapted to notebooks...



Reference Texts

- SOPs and AUPs
- Merck Index
- Biochemical Data Book
- Maniatis et al

4XX3 Reference List

- 1. Anon., in *Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*, R. C. Weast, Ed. (The Chemical Rubber Company, Ohio, 1971).
- 2. Anon., in Lab Ref: A Handbook of Recipes, Reagents, and Other Reference Tools for Use at the Bench, J. Roskams, L. Rodger, Eds. (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, New York, 2002).
- 3. J. H. Miller, in A Short Course In Bacterial Genetics, (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 1992).
- 4. J. Sambrook, D. W. Russell, in *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, New York, 2001), vol. 1.
- 5. R. F. Schleif, P. C. Wensink, in *Practical Methods in Molecular Biology*, (Springer-Verlag, 1981).
- 6. R. N. Giere, J. Bickle, R. F. Mauldin, in *Understanding Scientific Reasoning*, (Thomson Wadsworth Co., 2006).
- 7. K. Barker, in *At the Bench: A Laboratory Navigator*, (Cold Spring Harbor, New York, 2005).
- 8. Anon., in Lab Ref: A Handbook of Recipes, Reagents, and Other Reference Tools for Use at the Bench, A. Mellick, L. Rodger, Eds. (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 2007), vol. 2.
- 9. Anon., in *The Merck Index: An Encylcopedia of Chemicals and Drugs*, M. Windholz, Ed. (Merck & Co., Inc., 1976).
- 10. J. A. Pechenik, in A Short Guide To Writing About Biology, (Pearson Education, Inc., 2004).

MolBiol4XX3 Lab Notebook Marking Guide

Criteria							Very Poor	Poor	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Outstandir
Table of	contents											
	complete	titles										
	dates											
Signature	es on appr	opriate pag	jes									
Methods												
	clearly w	ritten so th	at proced	lure can b	e reproduce	d						
	appropria	te decima	ls (I prefe	r "1.0" ra	ther than "1")						
	Complete	descriptio	ns of exp	eriments		•						
Cross refe	erencina w	here appr	opriate									
Results			•				1					
	Figures											
	3	Dated										
		Lanes lab	elled									
		Title										
		Cross refe	rence to	table of co	omposition o	f samples						
		amounts I										
	Tables											
		Complete	ness									
		Title										
Discussio	n											
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		Problems										
		Analysis o					1					
		Comparis		ers			1					
Conclusio	nns	compans	ons to ou	1010			1					
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		endations f		/ement			1					
Overall	rganizatio		o. impro	- Ciliont			1					
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OVERALI	ASSESSI	MENT								1		

Date

May 5,3000

To examine growth phase dependent reporter gene expression in wild type (GC4468) and a mutant strain (HS143) carrying an operon fusion to the rpoS promoter.

Materials vnd:Method Strains E. coll GC4468 (WT)

E. coli HS143 (rpoS-lecZ)

LB broth

0.4mg ml ONPG (B-galactosidase substrate)

Biorad Coomassie Blue in Phosphoric acid (protein dye)

Preparation of cultures

-strains were grown overnight in LB from single colonies in 5.0 ml LB broth

-subcultured (100 ul in 50ml) the next morning and grown for 3-4 is to an OD500nm=0.3 (exponential phase)

-5.0 ml overnight culture collected (stationary phase)

-growth was stopped by the addition of 150 ug ml chloramphenical (final conc.)

Preparation of cell extracts

-cells were weahed 2 x with 0.05M KPi buffer pH 7.0 (6Kxg, 4C, 15 min) in a Sorvell 6000B tabletop centrifuge

-cultures were resuspended in 400 ul KPi buffer pH 7.0 in 15 ml polystyrene tube

-cell suspensions then disrupted by sonication 20 min (30 s on, 20 s off, full setting) in Heet Systems sonicator equipped with a cuphorn

-400 ul volumes were then transferred to 1.5 microfuge tubes and centrifuged (14Krg, 4C, 15 min) in th cold room

-supernates (cell-free extracts-CFEs) were then transferred to new microfuge tubes for enzyme assay and PAGE

Determination of protein

-the Bradford (1976) assay was used to measure protein employed the Biorad Micro assay.

Biorad Micro assay.

- place 1.0 ul sample in 1.0 ml water

-add 200 ul Biorad Coomassie Blue in Phosphoric acid using a repeating pipettor

-read absorbance at 595 nm

lug/al

tube (GC4468 E)

(S)

(3) HSH3 (E)

(4) 45 413 (5)

-a standard curve was prepared using a 1.0 mg per mi bovine serum albumin standard

-Biorad Commassie blue dye reagent (wear a lab coat as this reagent contains concentrated phosphoric acid)

Average Average

-blank

Sample data

Standard Curve	BSA Prot	Rep 1	A595 Rep 2	Rep 3	Average	Average -blank
	0.0	0.394	0.392	0.396	0.794	0.000
	4.0	0.526	0.513	0.539	0.526	0.132
1.3	8.0	0.650	0.646	0.654	0.650	0.256
white .	12.0	0.721	0.722	9.72	0.721	0.327
(4)	16.0	0.834	0.837	0.83	0.834	0.439

	Regress	ion Output:	
Cor	estant	0.3 200 ATOM (5000)	0.016
Std	Err of Y Est		0.019172
RS	quered		0.990531
No.	of Observation	5	5
Deg	raes of Freedo	m	3
xc	nettinient/e\	0.02686	

0.001516

64				10	
I ar			-		-
E		-			
-	4		+	-	-
100					
0.1					

Strain	Phase	Sample size		Average	Protein		
		(Lall)	Rep 1	Rep 2	Rep 3		malmi
GC4468	Exponentia	1.0	0.8090	0.7900	0.765	0.7990	7.3
	Stationary	1.0	0.8020	0.8020	0.786	0.7967	7.5
5143	Exponentia	1.0	0.7110	0.7400	0.726	0.7257	6.1
	Stationary	1.0	0.7880	0.7730	0.78	0.7803	7.2

late

Standard Curve	BSA Prot Rep 1	A595 Rep 2	
	0.0		_
	4.0		_
	8.0		_
	12.01		_

16.0

D
Regression Output:
Constant
Std Err of Y Est
R Squered
No. of Observations
Degrees of Freedom

X Coefficient(s) Std Err of Coef.

Std Err of Coef.

Strain 00595nm **Hhase** Dan 2 Dec 3 To examine growth phase dependent reporter gene expression in wild type (GC4468) and a mutant strain (HS143) carrying an operon fusion to the rpoS promoter. Strains E. coll GC4468 (WT) E. coll HS143 (rpoS-lecZ) LB broth 0.4mg ml ONPG (B-gelectoeidese substrate) Biorad Coomassie Blue in Phosphoric acid (protein dye) tube (GC4468 E) siloa of cultures
-atrains were grown overnight in LB from single colonies in 5.0 ml LB broth
-aubcultured (100 ul in 50ml) the next morning and grown for 3-4 in to an OD600ne=0.3 (exponential phase)
-5.0 ml overnight culture collected (stationary phase)
-growth was slooped by the addition of 150 ug ml chloramphenicol (final conc.)

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-cells were wearhed 2 x with 0.05M KPI buffer pH 7.0 (6Kig, 4C, 15 min) in a Sorvell 60008 tabletop centrifuge
-cultures were resuspended in 400 ul KPI buffer pH 7.0 in 15 ml polystyrene tube
-cell suspensions then discurted by sonicition 20 min (30 s on, 20 s off, full setting) in Heat Systems sonicator equipped with a cuphom
-400 ul volumes were then transferred to 1.5 microfuge tubes and centrifuged (14Kig, 4C, 15 min) in th cold noom
-supernates (cell-free extracts-CFEs) were then transferred to new microfuge tubes for ancyme assay and PAGE
-the Bradford (1976) assay was used to measure protein employed the Biorad Micro assay.

Biorad Micro assay.

Biorad Micro assay.

July assay in 1.0 ml water
-add 200 ul Biorad Coomessie Blue in Phosphoric acid using a repeating pipettor
-read absorbance at 505 nm (S) (3) HSH3 (E) (4) 45 H3 (5) lug/ul

-a standard curve was prepared using a 1.0 mg per ml bovine serum albumin standard -Biorad Commassie blue dye reagent (wear a lab coat as this reagent contains concentrated phosphoric acid)

Sample data

	Standard	BSA Prot	Rep 1	A595 Rep 2	Rep 3	Average	Average		Regression Output:	
	Curve	ug					-blank		Constant 0.016	
		0.0	0.394	0.392	0.396	0.294	0.000		Std Err of Y Est 0.019172	0.0
		4.0	0.526	0.513	0.539	0.526	0.132		R Squered 0.990531	4
	1 white	8.0	0.650	0.646	0.654	0.650	0.256		No. of Observations 5	In
	1.19	12.0	0.721	0.722		0.721	0.327		Degraes of Freedom 3	
	(10)	16.0	0.834	0.837	0.83	0.834	0.439		1.1.1. C. 1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.	
									X Coefficient(s) 0.02685 Std Err of Coef. 0.001516	100
Strain	Phase	Sample size	29		A595		Average	Protein		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
		(44)		Rep 1	Rep 2	Rep 3		mg/mi		0 5 50 16 20
GC4468	Exponentia	1.0		0.8090	0.7900		0.7880	7.3		ug-Protein
	Stationary	1.0		0.8020	0.8020	0.786		7.5		
.5143	Exponentia	1.0		0.7110	0.7400	0.726	0.7257	6.1		
	Stationary	1.0		0.7880	0.7730	0.78	0.7803	7.2		

Standard Curve	BSA Prot	 A595 Rep 2	Rep 3	Average	Average -blank
	0.0	_	$\overline{}$		T
	4.0			_	$\overline{}$
	8.0				_
	12.0	_		_	_
	16.0	_	_	_	_

Regression Output:

Constant Std Err of Y Est R Squared No. of Observations Degrees of Freedom

X Coefficient(s) Sld Err of Coef.

Strain	Phase	Sample size		OD595n	m	Average	Protein	
		(128)	Rep 1	Rep 2	Rep 3	-	mg/ml	
GC4468	Exponentia	1,0		T	T .	T	1	
	Stationary	1.0						
HS143	Exponentia	1.0						
	Stationary	1.0						

Determination of B-galactosidase
-samples were assayed for B-galactosidase using the method of Miller (1972)
-place 1.0 ml 2 buffer pH 7.0 into labelled disposable borosilicate tubes in triplicate
-add 1.0 ul of supplied cell is sorted to tubes and mix gently
-add 200 ul of 0.4 mg ml ONPG substrate, begin timing
-stop reaction by the addition of 0.5 ml of 1.0 M NaCO3
-read optical density at 420rm and record results
assume the motar extinction coefficient of ONPG is 4.5x103 Lmol-1cm-1

Strain	Phase	Sample		ìm				0D420n		Average	umol		Protein	Specific Activity	
		(UI)			ssa		Rep 1	Rep 2	Rep 3				mg/ml	umol min-	-1 mo-1
GC4468	Exponentia	1.0	1	17	:5	4		T	T		I	1		T	
	Stationary	1.0	Т	۲,		ń									
HS143	Exponentia	1.0	1	Ţ.	3	υ									_
	Stationary	1.0		٦	:4	5									

Blank

Start - 12:35

late

Curve

BSA Prot	Rep 1	A595 Rep 2	Rep 3	Average	Average -blank
0.0				1	
4.0					
8.0					
12.0					
16.0					

Regression Output:

Constant Std Err of Y Est R Squered No. of Observations Degrees of Freedom

X Coefficient(s) Sld Err of Coef.

Strain	Phase	Sample size (ul)	Rep 1	00595n Rep 2	m Rep 3	Average	Protein mg/ml	
GC4468	Exponentia	1.0			1	T		
	Stationary	1.0						
HS143	Exponentia	1.0						
	Stationary	1.0						

assume the motar extinction coefficient of ONPG is 4.5x103 Lmol-1cm-1

Strain	Phase	Sample (ull)	Time of assay	Rep 1	00420n Rep 2	m Rep 3	Average	umol	Protein mg/ml	Specific Activity umol min-1 mg-1	
GC4468	Exponentia	Exponentia	1.0	12:54		T	T .				
A second	Stationary	1.0									
HS143	Exponentia	1.0	1450								
	Stationary	1.0									

Start - 12:35