## M1D3: Assess purity and concentration of purified protein

- 1. Prelab discussion
- 2. Concentrate purified protein sample
- 3. Visualize MAX-6xHis purity
- 4. Measure MAX-6xHis concentration



### Overview of Mod 1 experiments:



### Let's review the protein purification steps...

- Added lysonase to what? why? Added DNasel to what? why? Lysonase contains enzymes that break down bacterial cell walls – DNAse prevents clumping
- Centrifuged what? why?

Centrifuging the lysed cells separates cell debris from lysate

Incubated with nickel resin – why?

Lysate contains our POI, which has a his tag that likes to bind nickel

- Washed with low concentration imidazole why? Low imidazole competes with weak binders for binding to the nickel column
- Eluted with high concentration imidazole why? High imidazole competes with our POI for binding to the nickel column

## First, you will concentrate your purified protein

- Filter device sits within centrifuge tube...add protein to filter device for centrifugation
- Filter device has MW cutoff of 3 kDa ...**protein is retained in the filter device** during centrifugation
- How does this concentrate the protein?



# How will you assess the quality of your protein?

- Check purity using SDS-PAGE
  - Visual detection of all proteins in sample
  - Used to assess purity / quality
- Measure concentration using BCA assay
  - Quantitative measure of all proteins in the sample
  - Used to calculate concentration





Purity: Sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE)



- Laemmli sample buffer (loading dye):
  - sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS)
  - β-mercaptoethanol (BME)
  - bromophenol blue
  - glycerol
- Boiling:

## How are proteins separated?

- Electrophoresis completed in TGS buffer
  - Tris-HCl
  - SDS
  - Glycine
- How does adding Laemmli buffer and boiling change protein structure?
- What determines how far a protein migrates in the gel?



# Be mindful when loading protein samples!

- Consider the order of your samples:
  - Pellet
  - Lysate
  - Flowthrough
  - Wash
  - Concentrated MAX-6xHis
  - Slurry
  - Ladder



• Figure for these results will be used for your due M1D4 homework and included in your Data summary!

## How are proteins visualized?

- Coomassie dye used to stain protein bands
  - Hydrophobic and electrostatic interactions with basic residues
  - Arg (also His, Lys, Phe, Trp)

- How will you know which band corresponds to MAX-6xHis?
- How does SDS-PAGE provide information regarding the purity of your protein sample?



### What are the expected results?



- Where do you / do you not expect to see MAX-6xHis? Why / why not?
- Where do you expect to see other cellular proteins?
- How will the elution sample differ from the concentrated protein sample?

# Concentration: Bicinchoninic acid (BCA) protein assay

Step 1: Biuret reaction; chelation of copper with protein, reduction of copper





# BCA/Cu<sup>1+</sup> absorbance proportional to protein concentration

- Standard curve generated using serial dilutions of bovine serum albumin (BSA)
  - Use fresh tips between tubes
  - Mix well between dilutions
  - Be sure to add correct volumes
- Is the calculated concentration an accurate measure of the amount of MAX-6xHis in your sample?



Protein concentration (µg/mL)

# For today...

- Divide experiments between partners to ensure work is completed during class time
  - Be sure to share data / results!

### For M1D4...

- Craft data figure for SDS-PAGE and BCA results
- Draft outline of Background & Motivation for bonus feedback 😳

## Notes on figure making...

- Be sure image is appropriately sized
  - Only needs to be large enough to be legible
  - Should not be entire page
- Eliminate visual noise and clutter
  - Unnecessary labeling and graphics distract from the data
- Use clear labels / legends
  - Be sure labels / legends do not obstruct the data



#### How can you improve this example?



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