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Purification of Recombinant Human Hsc70 from *Escherichia coli*

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

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Abstract

This protocol details how to efficiently purify recombinant human heat shock cognate 71 kDa protein (Hsc70), also known as HSPA8, expressed as hexahistidine-tagged, TEV protease cleavable fusion protein in *Escherichia coli*.



Materials

Buffers:

- Lysis buffer:

	A	B
	HEPES-KOH pH 8.0	50 mM
	KCl	10 mM
	MgCl ₂	5 mM

- Elution buffer:

	A	B
	HEPES-KOH pH 8.0	50 mM
	KCl	10 mM
	MgCl ₂	5 mM
	Imidazole	1000 mM

- High salt buffer:

	A	B
	HEPES-KOH pH 8.0	50 mM
	KCl	1000 mM
	MgCl ₂	5 mM

- Size exclusion chromatography (SEC) buffer:

	A	B
	HEPES-KOH pH 7.5	50 mM
	KCl	150 mM
	MgCl ₂	5 mM



	A	B
	Glycerol	5%



Hsc70 Expression: Transformation

9h 37m 45s

- 1 Thaw RbCl-competent *Escherichia coli* BI21 cells (DE3) On ice .
- 2 Add 1 μL of pProEx-HtA Hsc70 plasmid and incubate 00:30:00 On ice . 30m
- 3 Heat shock 00:00:45 at 42 °C . 45s
- 4 Incubate On ice 00:02:00 , then add 850 μL Lysogeny broth (LB) or Super Optimal broth with Catabolite repression (SOC) medium. 2m
- 5 Shake for 01:00:00 at 37 °C . 1h
- 6 Centrifuge for 3000 x g, 00:05:00 and remove most of the supernatant. 5m
- 7 Resuspend the pellet with the remaining supernatant and plate the bacteria on LB containing 100 μL Ampicillin agar plates and incubate Overnight at 37 °C . 8h

Hsc70 Expression: Bacterial Culture

18h 45m

- 8 **Prepare preculture:** Scrape all colonies with the scraper and inoculate 25 mL - 50 mL LB containing 100 μL Ampicillin in a flask. Shake flask at 37 °C for 04:00:00 - 06:00:00 . 6h
- 9 Measure OD₆₀₀ of the preculture and inoculate 6 L of LB medium containing 100 μL Ampicillin (6 flasks) to an OD₆₀₀ = 0.05.
- 10 Shake flasks at 37 °C until an approximate OD₆₀₀ of 0.5-0.8 (02:00:00 - 04:00:00). 4h



- 11 Add isopropyl β -D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) at final concentration of **1mM 0.5 millimolar (mM)** . 
- 12 Shake flasks  Overnight at **21 °C** . 

- 13 Centrifuge bacterial culture at **4000 rpm, 00:45:00** in a JS-4.2 rotor (Beckman). Discard supernatant. 

- 14 Resuspend each pellet with Lysis buffer (**20 mL** per **1 L** bacterial culture) supplemented with Complete EDTA-free protease inhibitor cocktail (Merck). Flash-freeze in liquid nitrogen for storage at **-70 °C** .

Hsc70 Purification: Lysis

1h 15m

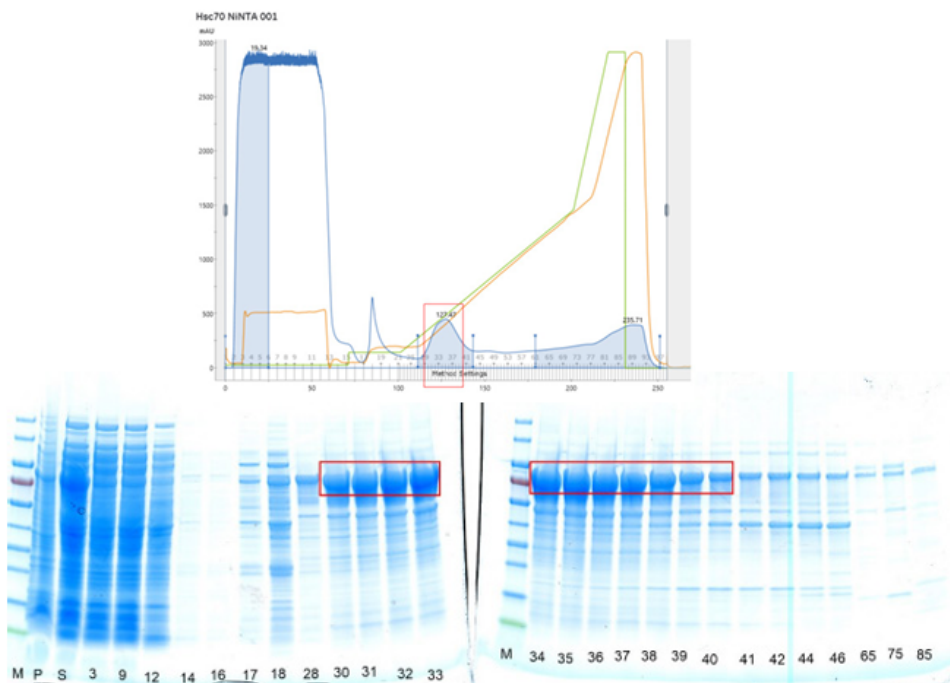
- 15 Thaw the cell pellets in a water bath at **22 °C** and add Lysis buffer (**75 mL** per **2 L** bacteria) supplemented with Complete EDTA-free protease inhibitor cocktail (Merck), Sm DNase 50 U mL⁻¹ and **1 μ L** lysozyme and incubate under gentle shaking for **00:30:00** at **4 °C** . 

- 16 Lyse the cells with a Emulsiflex C5 high-pressure homogenizer (4 cycles at 20,000 psi).
- 17 Centrifuge lysate at **40000 rpm, 4°C, 00:45:00** . Keep clarified supernatant. 


Ni-NTA Chromatography

- 18 Equilibrate the Ni-NTA column (HisTrap HP column 5 mL; 17-5248-0, Cytiva) with 10 column volumes (CV, 15 mL) Lysis buffer.
- 19 Load lysate supernatant onto the Ni-NTA column (50 mL).

- 20 Wash the Ni-NTA column with 2 CV 99% Lysis buffer - 1% Elution buffer. 
- 21 Wash the Ni-NTA column with 2 CV 95% Lysis buffer - 5% Elution buffer. 
- 22 Elute His₆-TEV-Hsc70 with 10 CV gradient 5-50% Elution buffer and collect elution fractions.
- 23 Wash the Ni-NTA column with 2 CV gradient 50-100% Elution buffer. 
- 24 Wash the Ni-NTA column with 1 CV gradient Elution buffer. 
- 25 Analyze fractions by SDS-PAGE and Coomassie blue staining. 



Ni-NTA chromatogram and SDS-PAGE analysis. P: 20 μ L resuspended pellet + 20 μ L 2x SDS PAGE sample buffer, loaded 15 μ L. L: 20 μ L lysate + 20 μ L 2x SDS-PAGE sample buffer, loaded 15 μ L. Fractions of interest: 10 μ L + 10 μ L 2x SDS-PAGE sample buffer; loaded 6 μ L. Red boxes: Pooled elution fractions (Fractions 29-40, 30 mL).



Desalting

- 26 In order to exchange the buffer, load the eluted protein onto a HiPrep 26/10 desalting column (17-5087-01, Cytiva) equilibrated with 2 CV (1 CV, 55 mL) of Lysis buffer.
- 27 Load  15 mL of the collected elution fractions. Run several times if needed.
- 28 Wash the column with 2 CV of High salt buffer.



His-TEV Protease Cleavage

8h

- 29 Collect fractions eluted from desalting column containing protein and add His-TEV protease at final concentration of 400 U per mg of protein.
- 30 Incubate at  4 °C  Overnight .

8h



Note

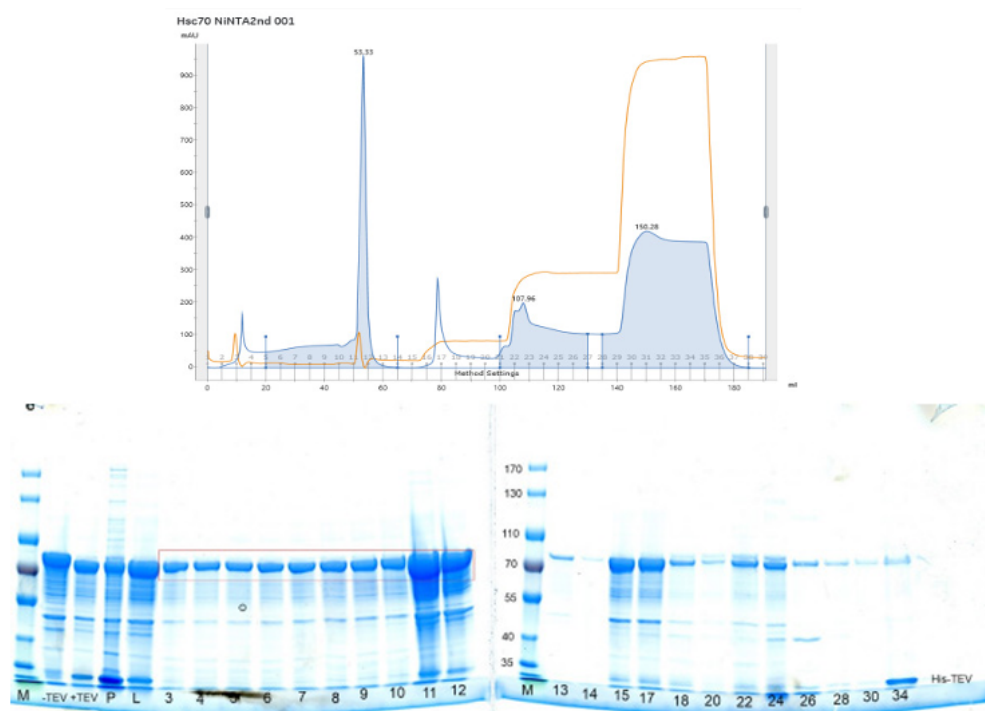
If precipitation is observed, reduce the salt concentration to  150 millimolar (mM) KCl by dilution.

Ni-NTA Filter Column (Collect Flow Through)

- 31 Equilibrate the Ni-NTA column with Lysis buffer.
- 32 Load the cleavage mixture onto the column.
- 33 Collect the flow through where the cleaved Hsc70 protein should elute.
- 34 Wash the column with 3 CV 95% Lysis buffer - 5% Elution buffer.



- 35 Wash the column with 3 CV 75% Lysis buffer - 25% Elution buffer. 
- 36 Wash the column with 3 CV Elution buffer and collect eluted fractions. 
- 37 Analyze fractions of the flow-through by SDS-PAGE and Coomassie blue staining. 

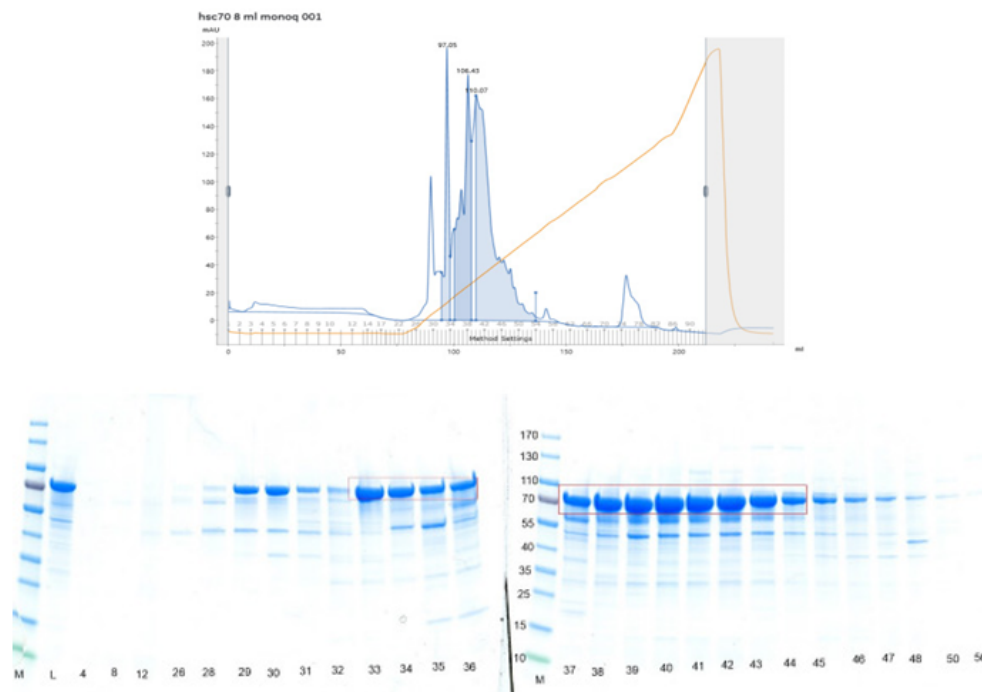


Ni-NTA chromatogram and SDS-PAGE analysis. +/- TEV: 10 μ L sample + 10 μ L 2x SDS PAGE sample buffer, loaded 2.0 μ L. Fractions of interest: 10 μ L sample + 10 μ L 2x SDS PAGE sample buffer, loaded 10 μ L. Red box: Pooled flow-through fractions (Fractions 3-12, 55 mL).

Anion Exchange Chromatography

- 38 Equilibrate a MonoQ column (MonoQ HR10/10, 17-0506-01 Cytiva, CV: 8 mL) with 2 CV of Lysis buffer.
- 39 Load the pooled protein from the Ni-NTA column flow-through.

- 40 Wash with 2 CV of Lysis buffer. 
- 41 Elute the protein with a gradient of 15 CV 1-70% High salt buffer.
- 42 Wash the column with a gradient of 2 CV 70-100% High salt buffer. 
- 43 Analyze eluted fraction by SDS-PAGE and Coomassie blue staining. 

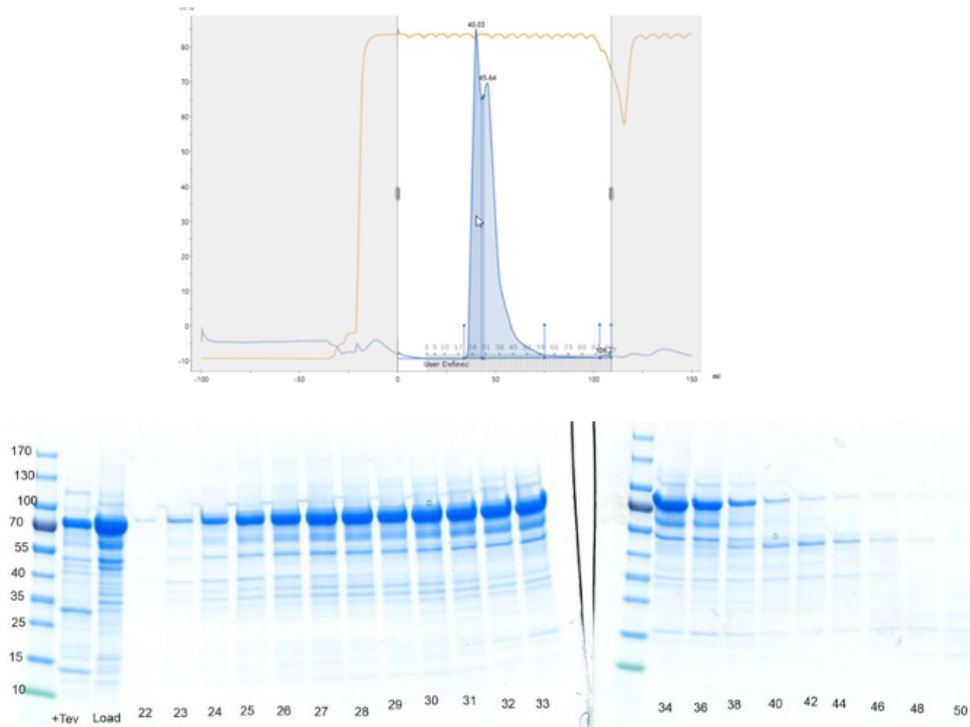


MonoQ chromatogram and SDS-PAGE analysis. Fractions of interest: 10 μ L sample + 10 μ L 2x SDS-PAGE sample buffer, loaded 10 μ L. Red box: Pooled fractions (Fractions 33-44, 28 mL).

- 44 Concentrate the pooled fractions using a centrifugal ultrafiltration device (Sartorius VivaSpin 10 kDa) to  5 mL volume for size exclusion chromatography.

Size Exclusion Chromatography

- 45 Load the concentrated sample onto a Sephacryl S100 16/60 column (17-1165-01, Cytiva) previously equilibrated with SEC buffer.
- 46 Analyze eluted fractions by SDS-PAGE and Coomassie blue staining.



Size exclusion chromatogram and SDS-PAGE analysis. 10 μ L fraction of interest + 10 μ L 2x SDS-PAGE sample buffer, loaded 15 μ L. Collected eluted fractions (24-36, 13 mL).

- 47 Pool fractions containing Hsc70, concentrate to around 10 μ L , aliquot and flash-freeze in liquid nitrogen for storage at -70 $^{\circ}$ C .