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Small Scale IPTG Induction | Protein Expression

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Test

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Disclaimer

Test

Abstract

Test

Before start

It's best to start small-scale protein purification on a Monday or Tuesday. This protocol will take at least 3 days before the first freezing step.



Seed Culture

1d

- 1 Preheat the shaking tube incubator to 37 °C
- 2 Label a 15 mL culture tube with the vector strain you will be using, and fill with 5 mL of LB broth with 1x Kanamycin antibiotic or 5ul of 1000x.
- 3 Place the labeled tube into the shaking incubator to warm, then grab an ice bucket and fill with ice.
- 4 Take the BL21 glycerol stock from the -80 °C freezer and place immediately into the ice bucket.
- 5 Use a 200 µL pipette tip to scrape some of the ice from the tube, and place the tip directly into the culture tube with LB.
- 6 Let the culture shake at 37 °C overnight to be completely saturated by the next morning.

12h

Culture Expansion

2h

- 7 Grab a sterilized 250 mL Erlenmeyer flask and fill with 45mL of Terrific Broth and 1x Kanamycin antibiotic.
- 8 Prewarm the flask in the shaking tube incubator at 37 °C
- 9 Add all 5 mL of the seed culture to the Erlenmeyer flask. The culture should expand 1:10 in 1-2 hours, to an OD around 0.4-0.6.
- 10 Thaw a stock of IPTG on ice about 30 minutes before you suspect the culture will be at 0.4 OD.

1h 30m

30m



11 Quantify the OD of your  50 mL flask using  500 μ L of culture in a spectrometer cuvette. Be sure to blank with  500 μ L of Terrific Broth.

12 Once OD hits 0.4-0.6, preheat the fridge shaking incubator to  16 °C

13 Dilute  1 Molarity (M) IPTG stock to the appropriate concentration for protein induction by adding to expanded culture. This will most likely be a range of  100 micromolar (μ M) to  1 millimolar (mM)

13.1 To calculate IPTG concentration, use $V1 \times C1 = V2 \times C2$, where column E is equivalent to V2.

	A	B	C	D	E
	50mL	1mM	?	1000mM	50uL
	50mL	0.8mM	?	1000mM	40uL
	50mL	0.6mM	?	1000mM	30uL
	50mL	0.4mM	?	1000mM	20uL
	50mL	0.2mM	?	1000mM	10uL

14 Take your IPTG-induced culture and shake overnight at  16 °C for about 16-18 hours.

18h

Pellet Cells

5m

15 Take each  50 mL culture and pour into a  50 mL conical tube, labelled.

16 Take the cells to a large or spinning-bucket centrifuge and spin at  500 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00

5m

17 Decant cells into a bleach waste bin labeled for culture, and dry on a paper towel for 5-10 seconds

10s



- 18 Freeze the pellet at 🌡️ -80 °C by storing in a freezer for storage, or continue to the protocol for cell lysis.