

Lab sheet #3

-Spectrophotometric Methods for Determination of Proteins Concentration-

Objectives:

- To determine the concentration of extracted protein by the Bradford method.
- Using the Warburg-Christian method to estimate the concentration of a protein sample.

A. Bradford method:

Method:

- Set up 9 tubes and label them as follows:

Tube	Bovine Serum Albumin (BSA) (150µg/ml) (ml)	Distilled Water (ml)	Sample with Unknown Concentration (ml)	Bradford reagent (ml)
Blank	-	1	-	5
A	0.07	0.93	-	
B	0.13	0.87	-	
C	0.26	0.74	-	
D	0.4	0.6	-	
E	0.66	0.34	-	
F	1	-	-	
Dialyzed sample	-	-	1	
		0.5	0.5	

- Mix and incubate at room temperature for 5 min then record the absorbance at 595nm.

Results:

Tube	Concentration (µg/ml)	Absorbance at 595 nm
A		
B		
C		
D		
E		
F		
Dialyzed sample		

- Record the absorbance in the table.
- Calculate the concentration of the standard solutions (A-F) using: $C_1 \times V_1 = C_2 \times V_2$ formula.
- Plot a standard curve of absorbance at 595nm against BSA protein concentration (µg/ml).
- From the standard curve obtain the protein concentration of dialyzed sample (using TREND formula).

When handling Bradford reagent, consider the following:

Always wear gloves, safety goggles, a mask, and a lab coat to prevent skin and eye irritation.

Ventilation: Work in a well-ventilated area, preferably under a chemical fume hood, to avoid inhaling vapors or mists.

Dispose reagent as recommended.

Related questions:

1. Which are the tubes that considered as standard solutions?

2. What is BSA?

3. Why did you read the absorbance of the tubes at 595 nm and which type of cuvette did you use?

4. Did you dilute your sample? If yes, what is your dilution factor? Write down the calculation.

B. Warburg-Christian Method (A_{280} / A_{260} Method):**Method and results:**

1. Read the absorbance of (protein sample A) at 280nm, then read the same sample at 260nm.
2. Record your results:

○ A_{280} = _____

○ A_{260} = _____

○ A_{280} / A_{260} = _____

○ Correction factor from the table= _____

- **Unknown concentration of protein sample A:**

$A_{280} \times \text{correction factor} =$ _____ mg/ml protein.

OR

Grove's formula: Protein concentration= $[1.55 \times A_{280}] - [0.76 \times A_{260}]$

= _____ mg/ml

Unknown concentration of protein sample A = _____

Related questions:

1. Can you predict the percentage of the nucleic acid that contaminates the "protein sample A"?

2. Why is this method considered a "direct" assay?

 A_{280}/A_{260} Method

A_{280}/A_{260}	Correction factor	Nucleic acid (%)
1.75	1.12	0.00
1.63	1.08	0.25
1.52	1.05	0.50
1.40	1.02	0.75
1.36	0.99	1.00
1.30	0.97	1.25
1.25	0.94	1.50
1.16	0.90	2.00
1.09	0.85	2.50
1.03	0.81	3.00
0.98	0.78	3.50
0.94	0.74	4.00
0.87	0.68	5.00
0.85	0.66	5.50
0.82	0.63	6.00
0.80	0.61	6.50