

#### **ThermoFisher** SCIENTIFIC

Taking charge variant analysis from research into the routine environment

Global BioPharma Summit

The world leader in serving science

### Structure of IgG and Typical Forms of Heterogeneity





### **Bio-Column Selection Guide**

Analysis		Description	Columns and Buffers	Detection
Titer		mAb capture, titer & screening	Thermo Scientific™ MAbPac™ Protein A	UV
Aggregate		Routine screening for aggregates and fragments	Thermo Scientific™ MAbPac™ SEC-1	UV & light scattering
Charge Heterogeneity	***	Routine variant profiling including; lysine truncation, deamidation and acylation	Thermo Scientific <sup>™</sup> MAbPac <sup>™</sup> SCX-10 Thermo Scientific <sup>™</sup> MAbPac <sup>™</sup> SCX-10 RS Thermo Scientific <sup>™</sup> ProPac <sup>™</sup> WCX-10 Thermo Scientific <sup>™</sup> CX-1 pH Gradient Buffer Kit	UV
Methionine & Tryptophan Oxidation		Targeted analysis of methionine and tryptophan oxidation	Thermo Scientific™ MAbPac™ HIC-20 Thermo Scientific™ MAbPac™ HIC-10 Thermo Scientific™ ProPac™ HIC-10	UV
Antibody Drug Conjugate (ADC)		Drug to Antibody ratios	Thermo Scientific <sup>™</sup> MAbPac <sup>™</sup> HIC-10 Butyl Thermo Scientific <sup>™</sup> MAbPac <sup>™</sup> HIC-20 Thermo Scientific <sup>™</sup> MAbPac <sup>™</sup> HIC-10 Thermo Scientific <sup>™</sup> MAbPac <sup>™</sup> RP	UV
Antibody Drug Conjugate (ADC) using MS		Drug to Antibody ratios and intact mass	Thermo Scientific™ MAbPac™ SEC-1 Thermo Scientific™ MAbPac™ RP Thermo Scientific™ Acclaim™ SEC-300	
Intact or Fragment Mass	<b>N</b>	Intact, light (LC), heavy chain (HC) and fragment (Fab & Fc) analysis	Thermo Scientific™ MAbPac™ RP	UV and MS
Native Mass	1	Intact native mass analysis	Thermo Scientific™ MAbPac™ SEC-1 Thermo Scientific™ Acclaim™ SEC-300	UV and MS



### Thermo Scientific<sup>™</sup> Vanquish<sup>™</sup> UHPLC Platform for Bio-therapeutic Characterization











### Charge Variant Analysis using Cation Exchange Chromatography (CEX)





#### Next-generation CEX Column



Improve resolution or sample throughput through column chemistry



### mAb Charge Variant Analysis by CEX Salt Elution

#### Cation Exchange of mAb

Elution with competing sodium ions from an NaCl gradient





**Cation Exchange** 

Ion Exchange Charge

- Competition for Ion Exchange sites between the mAb and Na<sup>+</sup> ions
- This interaction happens all the way through the column
- The longer the column the better the resolution
- Surface exchange on a pelicular resin for high resolution



#### http://bit.ly/ChargeVariants



#### Effect of pH on elution of mAb (salt gradient)





### Mab Charge Variant Analysis by CEX pH Gradient Elution

#### pH gradient elution

- Based on pl of protein
- Loss of retention with progressing pH gradient, depending on pl
- "Single" binding event, trapping at pH < pl (for CEX)</li>





pH Gradient

#### Ion Exchange Charge

# Isoelectric Focusing on a Cation Exchange Column

- mAb binds to cation exchange sites on the column
- A gradient of increasing pH is applied
- mAb is released from the exchange site when the net charge on the mAb is neutral
- This interaction happens once, then the mAb runs through the rest of the column
- Column length has little effect on the resolution
- This is a concentrating technique
- Surface exchange on a pelicular resin for high resolution and low buffering capacity effects



#### Comparison of pH gradient buffer systems



**MAbPac SCX-10** (5 μm) 4x50 mm



### Charge Variant Analysis using pH Gradient

## Advantages

- Platform method ⇒ single method for wide range of mAbs
- Reduced method development and method transfer times
- Outperforms any other charge variant technology
- Less effect from column variability
- Transferability of method from development to QC

	рН
Thermo	Form
	Concentra
<ul> <li>Dilute buffers 10-fold with DI water</li> <li>A linear pH gradient (pH 5.6 - 10.2)</li> </ul>	Shipping condition
is generated by running a linear pump gradient from 100% Buffer A to 100% Buffer B	Storage

Generic, fast & high-resolution!

	Buffer A	Buffer B
рН	5.6	10.2
Form	Liquid	Liquid
Concentrate	10X	10X
Shipping condition	Room Temp	Room Temp
Storage condition	4 ~ 8 °C	4 ~ 8 °C

















#### Infliximab – Vanquish System Ultra-fast Gradients



Resolution and number of charge variants maintained in sub-minute gradients



#### Fast, Generic and Linear pH Gradient – Vanquish UHPLC



*pH* 5.6 to 10.2 in 10 minutes, *MAbPac SCX-10* (5 μm), 2 x 50 mm



#### Repeat Injections of Ribonuclease A: >300 Runs



Retention time reproducibility <0.8% RSD



### Effect on Loading Capacity and Peak Resolution

### pH gradient

- Peak resolution increases with loading
- Isoelectric focusing
- Full column capacity can be used for loading without affecting peak resolution and capacity

### Salt gradient

- Peak resolution lost with increased loading
- Separation occurs over complete column length
- Peak capacity easily exceeded and resolution lost







### Peak Analysis of 50 and 250 mm Columns with pH Gradient Elution



	PW[HH] Peak 1	PW[HH] Peak 2	PW[HH] Peak 3	Resolution Peak 2 to 3	Elution pH Peak 1	Elution pH Peak 2	Elution pH Peak 3
50mm column	0.06	0.06	0.06	3.63	6.61	6.68	6.81
250mm column	0.06	0.06	0.06	3.73	6.81	6.9	7.04



### Equilibration times on a 150mM long MAbPac SCX column









### In-depth Charge Variant Characterization using CEX fraction collection and LC-MS

1<sup>st</sup> dimension: IEX pH gradient + fraction collection

2<sup>nd</sup> dimension: Polymer RP-LC/MS



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#### Minimized Carryover using Polymeric MAbPac RP





#### Full Scan MS Spectra from Q Exactive









### **Optimized Conditions**





### Reproducibility NIST mAb





### Cetuximab Commercial Drug Product





#### **Biosimilar Candidate**



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#### Drug Product vs. Biosimilar Candidate





### Compare Expression Systems

Potential causes of variation	Chinese Hamster Ovary	Human Embryonic Kidney	Drug Product (NS0 Cell line)
Transfection	Transient	Transient	Stable
Culture Duration	8 days	6 Days	N/D
DNA construct	Human	Human	Chimeric mouse/human
Purification	Purified from culture media into neutralized Acetic Acid	Purified from culture media into neutralized Acetic Acid	Diafiltrated into formulation buffer prior to purification
Viability at harvest	~93%	~70%	N/D
Viable Cell count at harvest	(Mean) 6.9x10 <sup>6</sup> cells/mL	(Mean) 8.3x10 <sup>6</sup> cells/mL	N/D
Culture Volume	50 mL	50 mL	10,000-12,000 L



nibrt National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training

### Different Charge Variants





### Preparative Chromatography





### **Conclusions: Charge Variant Analysis**

- Charge variant analysis can be achieved with salt or pH gradient elution
- New column chemistries are available that can provide increased speed and resolution
- pH gradient elution can provide several advantages including; Global applicability, Increased speed, fast method development, High loading capacity, less column dependence, Easy method transfer
- Collection of variant peaks can be easily desalted on-line for further analysis by MS
- Protein expression in different cell lines resulted in altered charge variants
- Charge variants peak collection and individual *N*-glycan analysis can identify sialylation patterns.





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