# 2D separations and analysis of proteins in biological samples

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# Learning objectives

**2-D electrophoresis:** What it involves: **2D** separation image, statistical analysis MS Other types of 2D protein separations; MUDPIT 2D LC-LC Other types of protein analysis technologies: protein arrays antibody arrays

Initially: The objective of protein separation in proteomics was to get a protein "spot" or "band", for mass spectrometry analysis, to identify the protein/its modifications



**MALDI-TOF** mass spectrometry

#### ID of parent polypeptide



# Types of high-throughput separation & analysis technologies

### I. 2-dimensional electrophoresis (2-DE)

- A. "regular" IEF/SDS-PAGE
- B. 2D-blue-native electrophoresis
- C. Visualization methods

## II. 2-dimensional liquid-based LC/LC

- III. Free-flow electrophoresis
- IV. "Chip" technology: arrays of ligands for proteins

# Parameters that govern the choice of protein separation method

- Purity of protein
- Speed of purification
- Quantity of protein
- What is the question:most important
  - Discovering a new protein/proteome
  - Identifying protein-protein interactions
  - Identifying potential modifications of known proteins

# The Elements of any 2-D separation in proteomics

- The experiment!! that generates the "signal"
- Subfractionation to enrich for suspected proteins
- (Trypsin-digestion to generate peptides of the parent proteins)
- Sample work-up
- 2-D separation
- Image or other analysis to identify gel "spot" differences between untreated & treated
- MS of (trypsin-digests) spots/proteins/peptides of interest, to identify and characterize the protein

# **Sample preparation for 2DE:**

Harvest, rinse, and pellet the cells;



or

Dissect out tissue, organ, or fluids;

•Homogenize/lyse in buffer that *unfolds the proteins w/o* adding or disturbing the charges:

•High urea usually 5-8 M---unfolds the protein

•Sometimes 2 M thiourea--unfolds the protein

1-4% detergent--solubilizes hydrophobic components

•Beta-mercaptoethanol or other reductant, such as TBP, DTT

Inhibitors: of proteases, kinases, & phosphatases

•Clarify by centrifugation to get rid of insoluble matter;

Jai Pitotein assay to know how much and how concentrated

# What 2-D electrophoresis involves:

• 1st dimension: Isoelectric focussing



• 2nd dimension: (SDS)-PAGE



# A real 2-D gel



Find this and other 2-D gels at http:www.expasy.org

Lewis et al., [2000] Molec. Cell, 6)

(from Natalie Ahn's lab)

The pattern itself is information; a change in intensity of a spot is not meaningful unless you know it is the same spot.

### Critical part of 2-D gel proteomics: Image analysis



## **Types of information:**

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- ----- Upregulation of gene
  - ---- Posttranslational modificatiion
    - -- Downregulation of gene
      - Aberrant processing

#### Elements of image analysis of "regular" 2D gels:

- 1. Compare the 2D displays of spots
- 2. Determine total spot number for each display
- 3. Quantify spot intensities, identify differences
- 4. Identify spots that may have "moved" horizontally; these are candidates for those may have alterations in charge.

## Ultimate and simple goal of image analysis to answer the question, "What is changing, and by how much?"

### A pair of 2D gels representing rat brain protein changes induced by ingestion of grape seed pH 4 pH 7



#### Control

# Categories of data generated by 2D gel image analysis



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Principal Components analysis assists in determining whether the gel patterns distinguish between the experimental





# chain



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Single biggest bottleneck, even with DIGE: even commercially made gels (1st dimension, 2nd dimension) are not perfect. 2D displays of proteins across large datas

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# Database obtained from proteomics analysis of breast cancer cell lines

Sample	Spot#	Protein Name	MOWSE	Accession#	Obs:	Pred:	Obs:	Pred:
					kDa	kDa	pI	pI
MCF-7	BR-8	Cytoskeletal keratin-7	132	gi12803727	20.7	51.3	8.6	5.3
	BR-9	Alpha-1 anti-trypsin	90	gi1942953	19.7	44.3	9.6	
	BR-1	Human	94	gi87303	56.2	53.5	5.9	5.6
MCF-		Cytoskeletal keratin-8						
10AT	BR-6	Human	74	gi18573275	23.4	24.1	6.3	
	BR-5	hypo:XP109048	60	gi5106591	18.1	6.4	5.7	
		IgG heavy chain						
	BR-7	variable region	105	gi1942953	37.0	44.3	6.9	
		Intact recomb: alpha-						
	BR-4	1 antitrypsin mutant	65	gi5106591	10.0	6.4	4.6	
		F-L						
		IgG heavy chain						
		var:reg						
MCF-	BR-3	Human cytokeratin-8	65	gi87303	56.0	53.5	5.8	5.6
10A	BR-2	DNA replication	58	gi1705520	22.8	96.5	6	6.6
		silencing factor MCM-						
		4						

#### (Deshane, Johanning, and Kim, unpublished data)

#### Metabolic labelling can enhance 2D gel analysis: i.e. <sup>35</sup>S-methionine-labelling

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Make use of databases and the internet:

I. Check existing databases and web-links: www.expasy.org many are annotated helpful links: proteomics tools II. Keep up with the literature/ competition: Electrophoresis Proteomics Molecular & Cellular Proteomics J. Proteome Research

III. Use genomics information when available: The polypeptide sequence (from the cDNA) can predict electrophoretic parameters-- m.w. & pl; helpful in setting up 2D gel conditions

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### **2D-Blue-Native gels: for hydrophobic proteins**

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### What questions does BN electrophoresis address:

(a) Which proteins are actually interacting with which?

![](_page_20_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### When would you see the same protein in two lanes on the 2nd

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## Take home message

- Use of proteomics technologies enables global analysis of protein changes ;
- 2D electrophoresis can indicate both differential expression or posttranslational modifications;
- Choice of separation governed by
  - Abundance of sample
  - Question being asked
  - Technology available to you
  - Cost is a factor;

## **Issues in 2D gel analysis:**

I. Now you see it, now you don't:

![](_page_23_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_3.jpeg)

Probable answers/what are the solutions:

- 1. Protein not solubilized by IEF buffer
- 2. Not enough protein!!!
- 3. Modification lost during preparation?

II. I see the band on my 1D gel that runs with my western blot band; Why do I need to run a 2D gel anyway?

# 2D-LC-LC

1st dimension: chromatofocussing (like IEF, but *in solution*, so can take higher protein loads)

![](_page_24_Figure_2.jpeg)