

# FRACTIONATE

Protein Fractionation Techniques, HPLC  
and OFFGEL Fractionation

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*April 2, 2008*

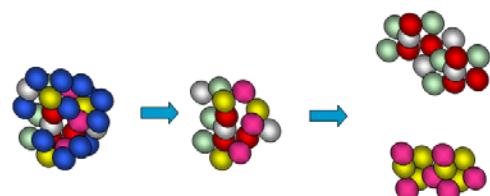


Agilent Technologies

# Introduction

## OFFGEL electrophoresis

- separates proteins or peptides according to  $pI$
- based on the resolving power of immobilized pH-gradient (IPG) gels
- performs traditional in-gel IEF and OFFGEL electrophoresis
- OFFGEL mode provides analytes in solution
- compatible with LC-MS and upfront sample preparation techniques



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## Target Applications

Biomarker discovery, protein ID, differential expression and PTM (post-translational modifications) analysis, phosphopeptide analysis, protein characterization

Analysis of recombinant protein isoform impurities



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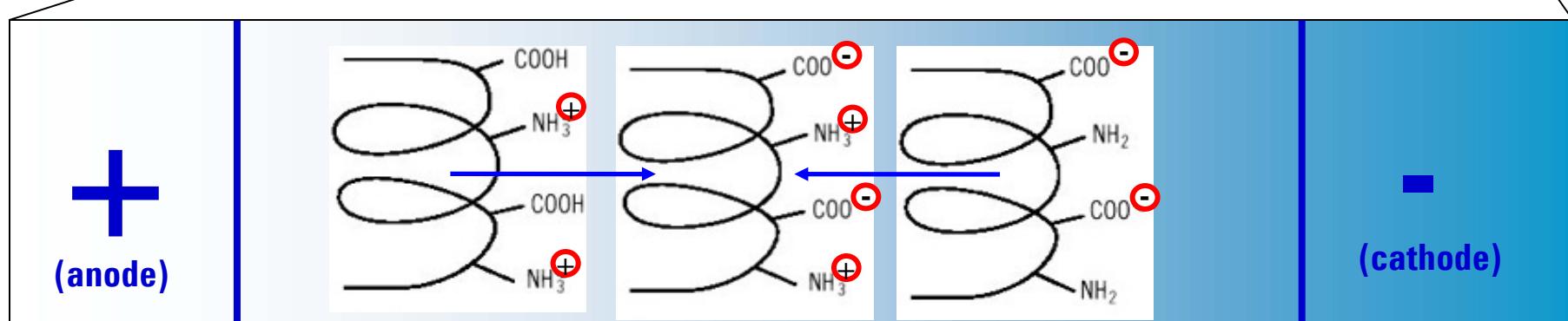
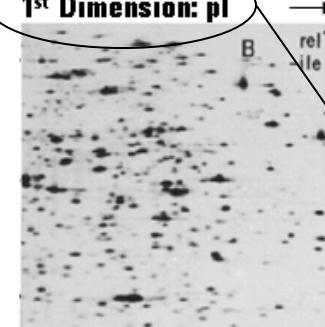
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# Introduction

Separation of proteins or peptides according to their isoelectric points (pl)



**pH < pl**  
positively charged

**pH = pl**  
balanced

**pH > pl**  
negatively charged

Low pH

pH gradient

High pH



## *pI*-based Fractionation: OFFGEL principle

- after rehydration the IPG gel seals against the frame
- diluted sample is distributed across all wells
- liquid fractions can be removed with a pipette

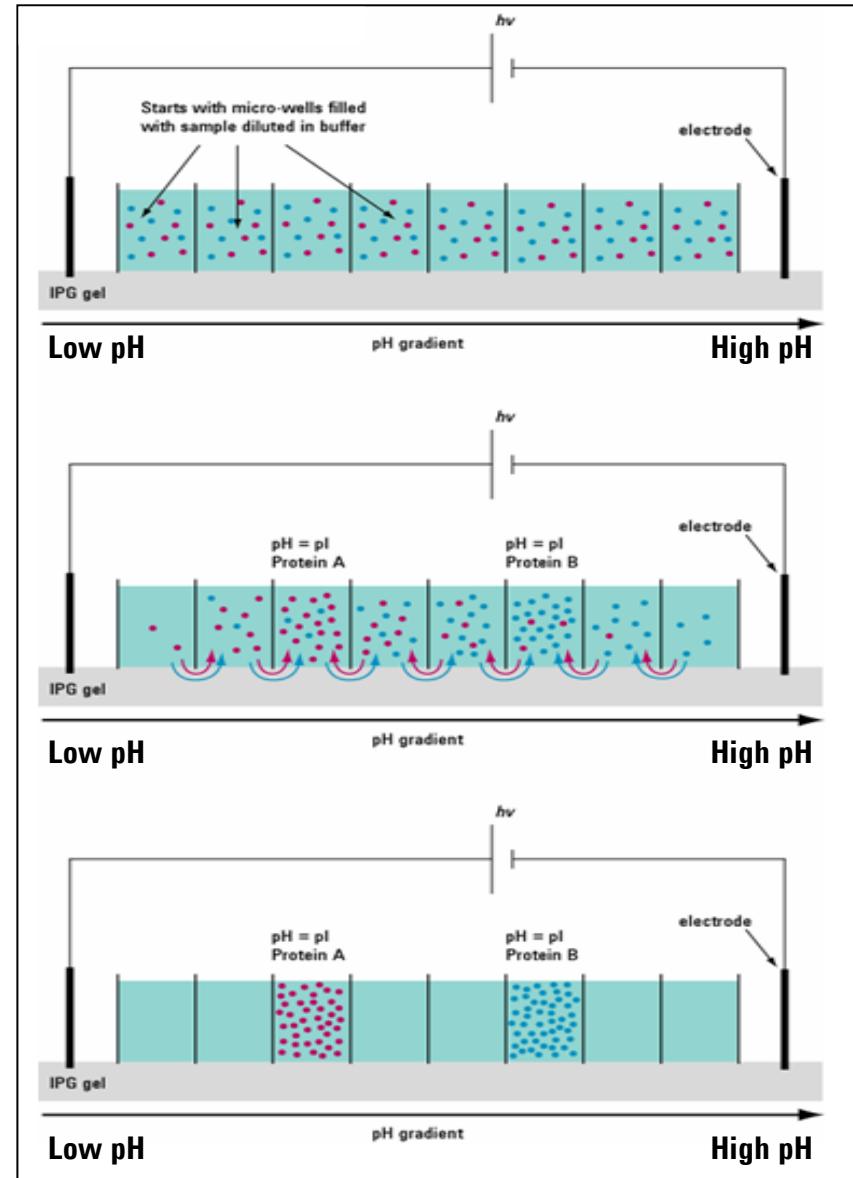
**Number of fractions:** 12 or 24

**Fraction volume:** 150  $\mu$ l

**Fractionation time:** 8 - 36 h

**Recovery:** 70% proteins

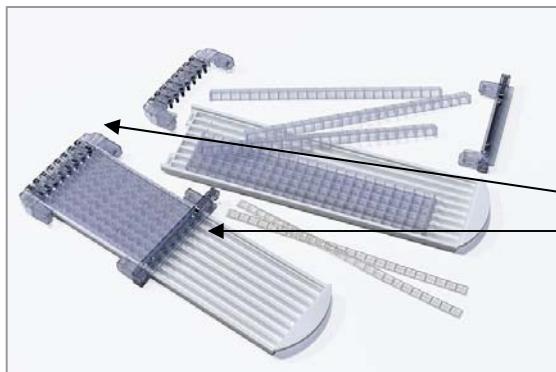
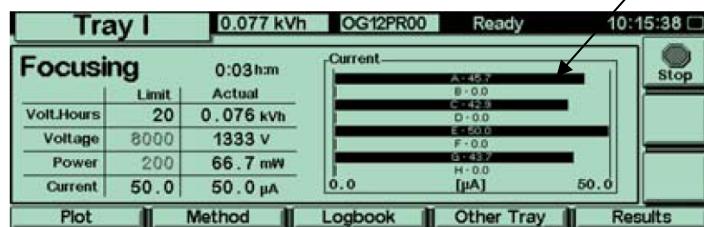
>80% peptides



# Instrumentation



- Local controller with preinstalled software
- Validated methods
- Online view and storage of run parameters (voltage, current, temp.)
- Runs 16 samples in parallel
- Current measurement for each sample
- Reagent and consumable kits containing plastic materials, reagents and IPG-gels



Gel strips are placed in tray grooves (8 per tray)

Fixed and movable electrode



**Five easy steps to set up and run a fractionation**

1. Place a dry IPG gel strip in the tray.



2. Place a well frame over the IPG gel strip, pipette 20 µl rehydration solution into each well and allow the IPG gel to swell.



3. Pipette 150 µl of the diluted sample into each well and close the frame with a cover seal.

## OFFGEL Workflow overview



4. Attach the electrodes to the tray.



5. Place the loaded tray into the fractionator and press "Start".

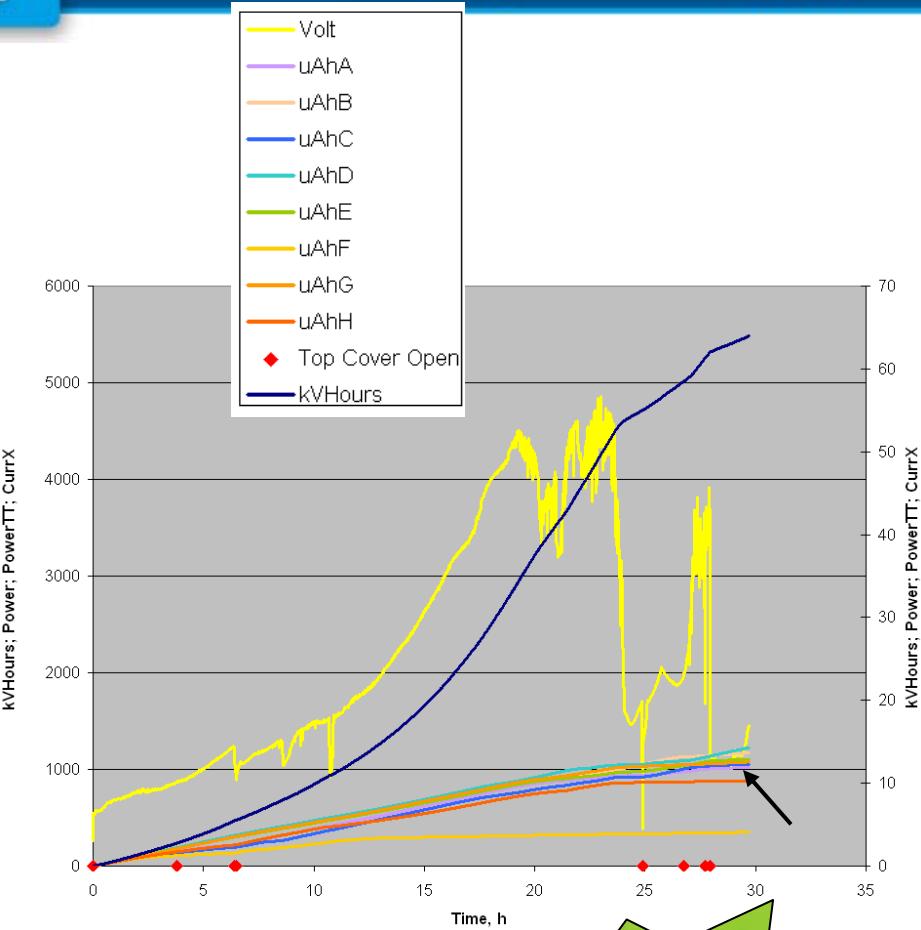
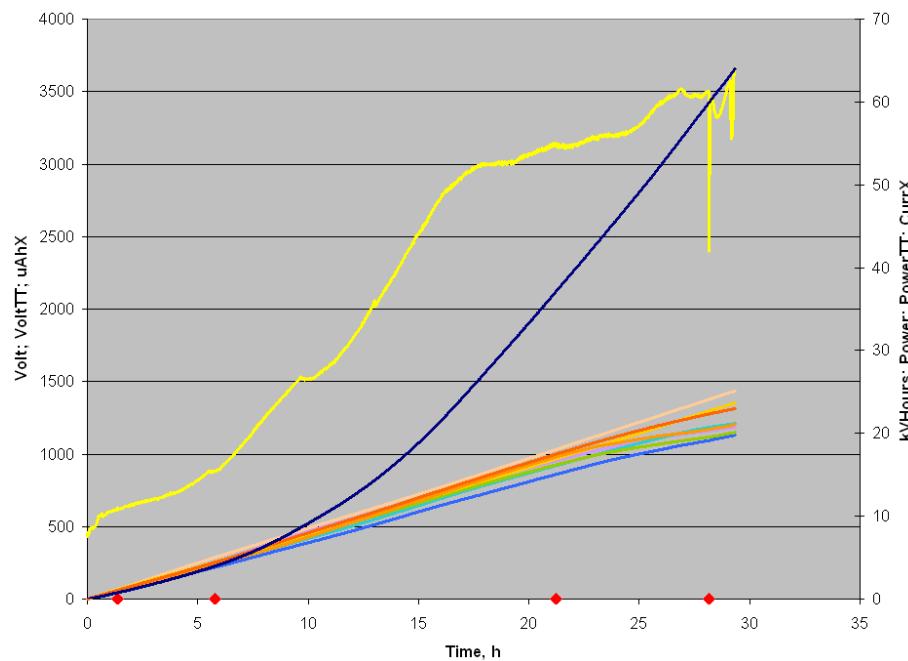


## 3100 Features

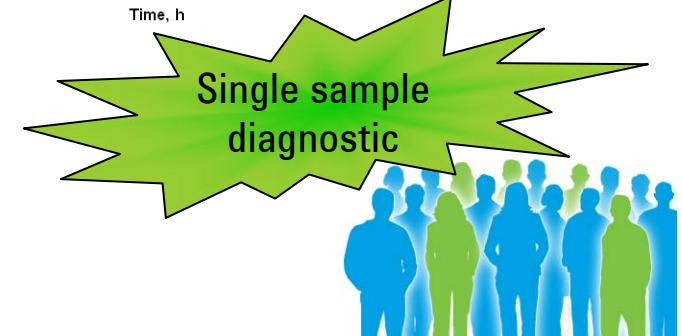
- Protein/peptide fractionation with 0.1 – 0.6 *pI* resolution
- $\mu\text{g}$  to mg load capacity (50  $\mu\text{g}$  – 5 mg per sample)
- Possible to run conventional in-gel IEF as well as OFFGEL fractionation
- Diagnostics: Online current control for each individual sample allow to check fractionation quality & progress of each individual sample



## OFFGEL Fractionation: Current/Voltage Logfile



Logging of voltage and current for every sample allows quality control of fractionation prior to expensive LC-MS !



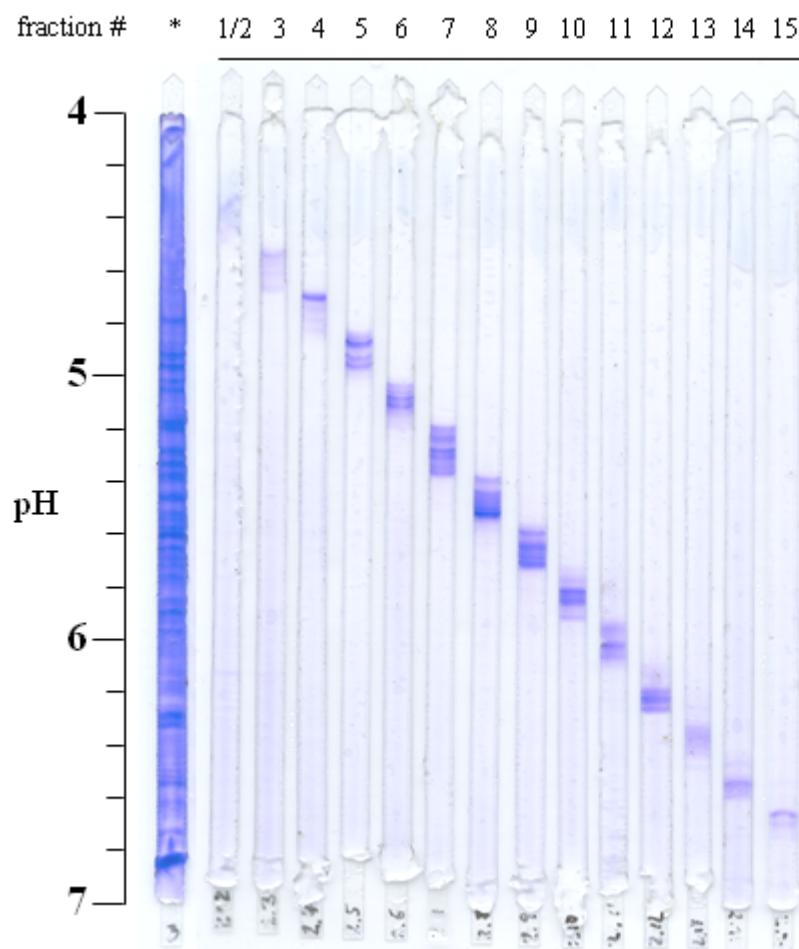
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# Analysis of OFFGEL Fractions by IEF



*E. coli* cell extract

Coomassie Brilliant Blue stain

\* unfractionated sample



Standard in-gel IEF  
and staining



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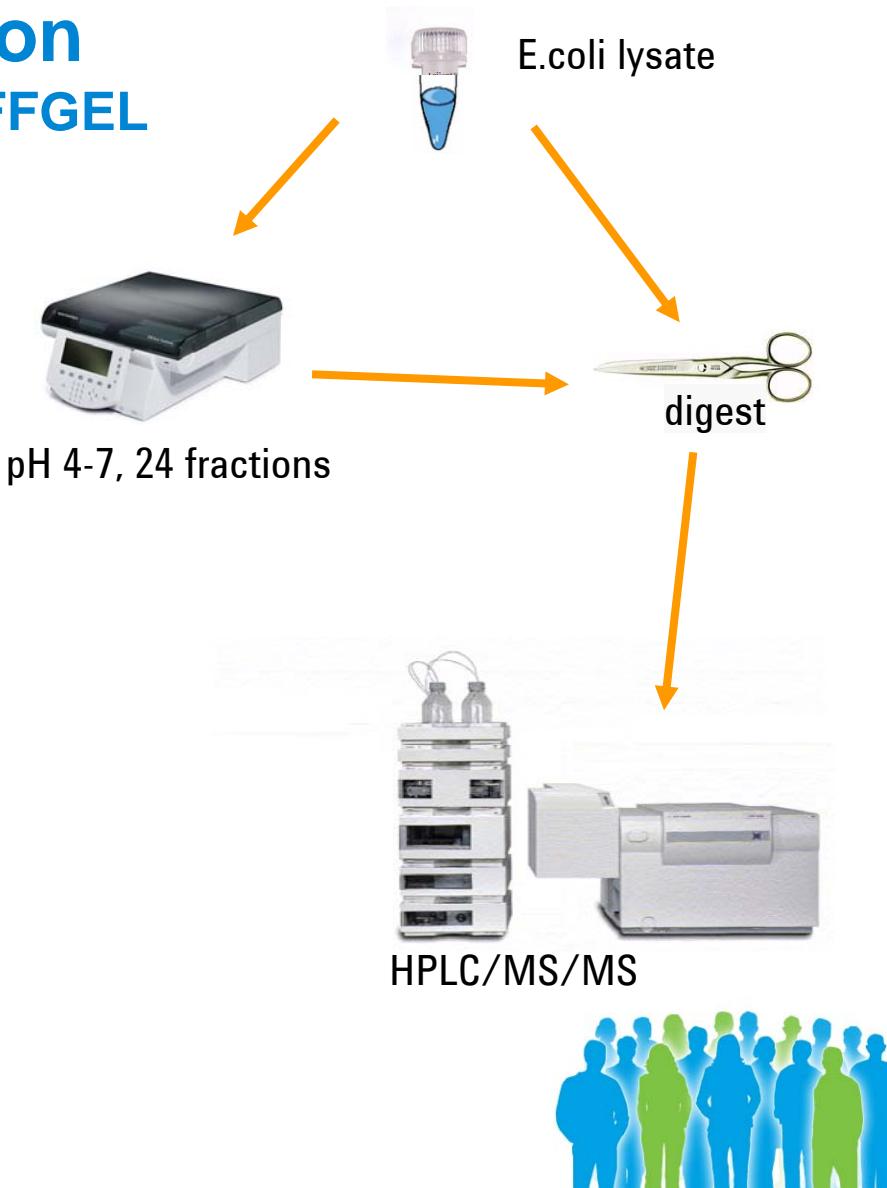
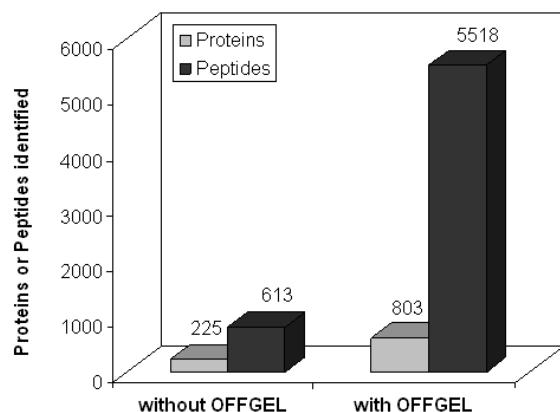
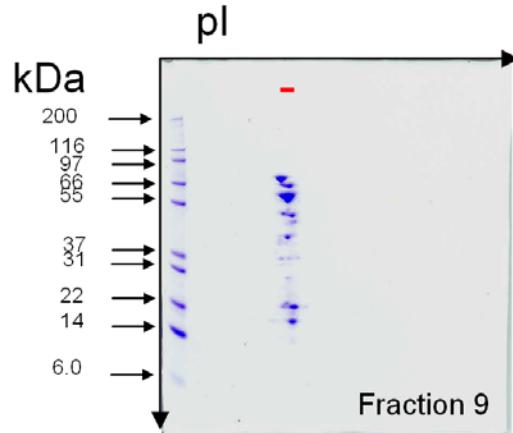
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# OFFGEL Protein Fractionation

4 times more proteins detected with OFFGEL



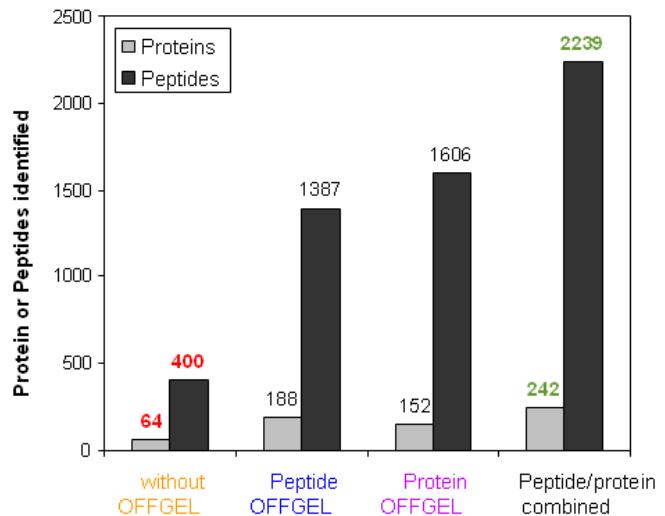
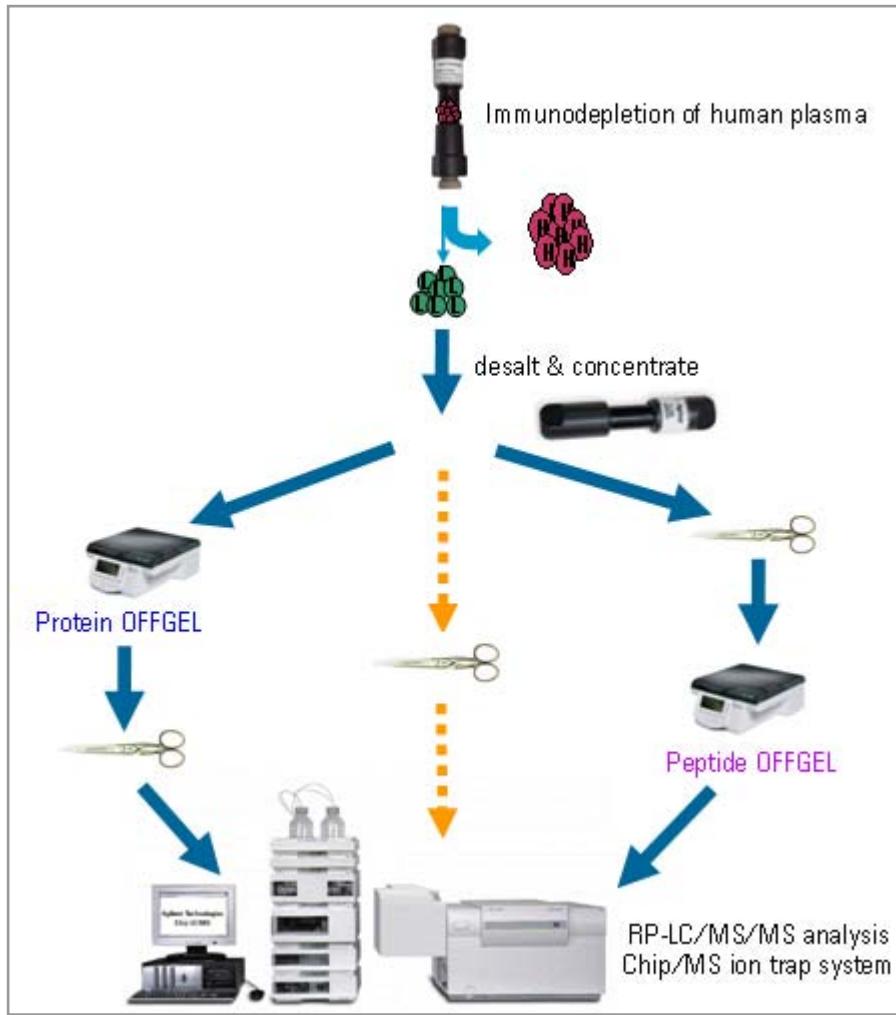
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# OFFGEL Increases MS Sensitivity

## example workflow



4-fold increase of detected proteins due to OFFGEL fractionation

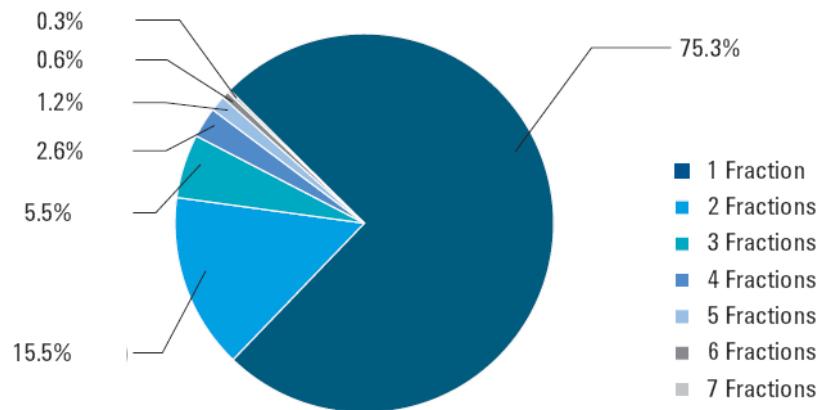


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# OFFGEL Peptide Fractionation



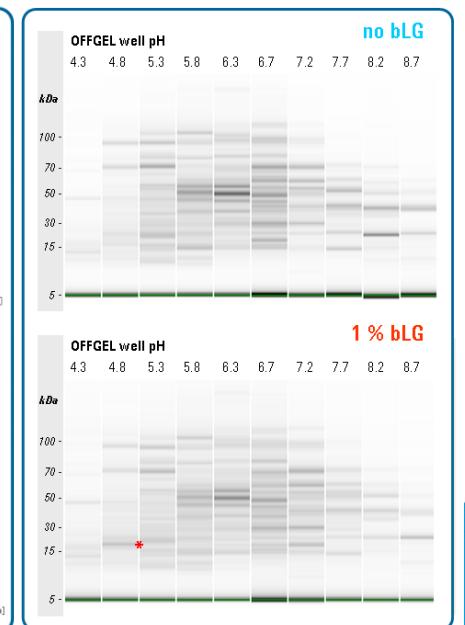
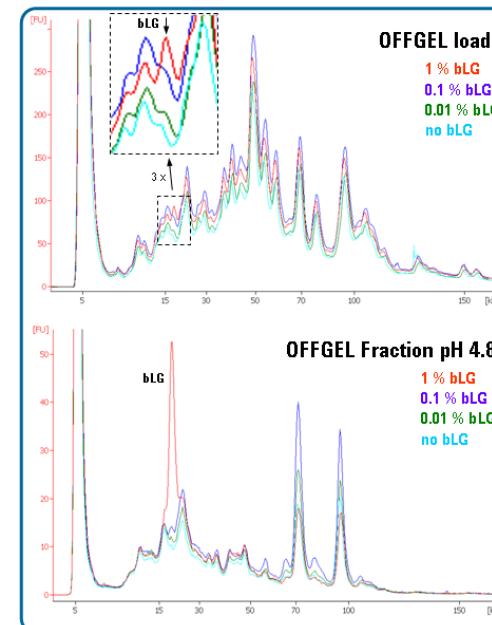
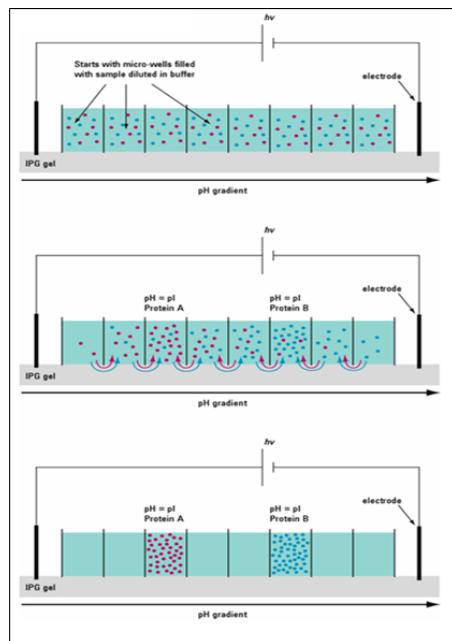
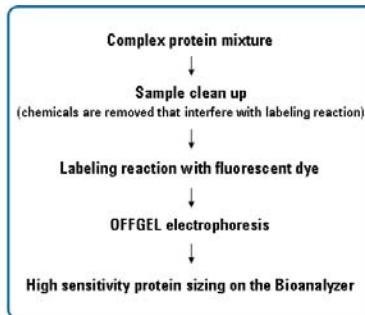
=> Minimal overlap: 90%  
of peptides are found in 1  
or 2 fractions!

**Number of OFFGEL fractions containing each individual peptide  
(absolute numbers of peptides in parenthesis)**



# Combination of IEF with SDS-PAGE

## Agilent 3100 OFFGel Fractionator + 2100 bioanalyzer



## Summary

- OFFGEL reduces sample complexity of protein or peptide samples by providing fractions in liquid phase
- OFFGEL electrophoresis provides pI-information as an additional identification marker which may be used to validate MS results
- special features:
  - ability to run in-gel & OFFGEL mode
  - 16 samples on two separate power supplies
  - online diagnostic check of fractionation quality
  - specifically for OFFGEL mode
    - highest resolution (0.1 *pI*)
    - µg to mg load capacity

[www.agilent.com/chem/offgel](http://www.agilent.com/chem/offgel)



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## Agilent's Proteomics Sample Preparation Workflow

MARS

High Abundant  
Protein Removal



Multiple Affinity  
Removal System

OFFGEL

pI-based Protein  
Fractionation



OFFGEL  
Electrophoresis  
System

mRP

Protein  
Fractionation



Macroporous  
Reverse Phase  
Column



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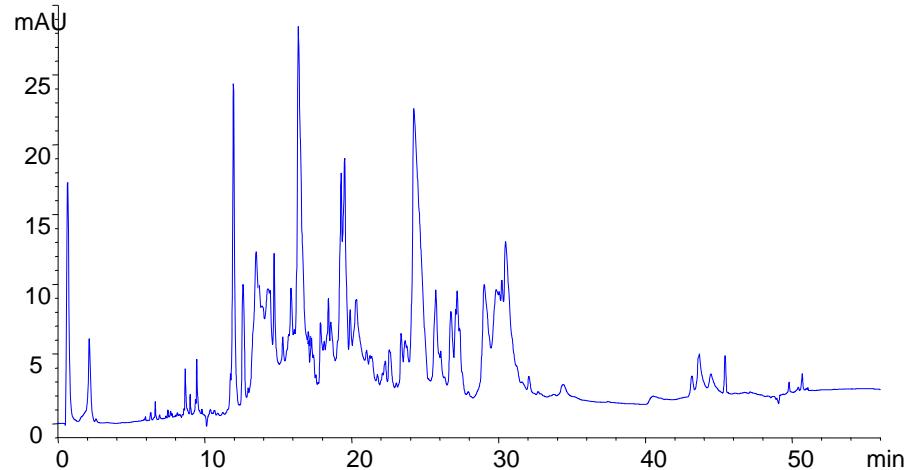
IDENTIFY

## mRP (Macroporous Reverse Phase) Column

### High Recovery Protein Fractionation



mRP Column



## mRP-C18 Protein Fractionation Column



### What is it?

Reverse Phase column for protein separation and fractionation. The silica based particles and recommended LC methods have been optimized for:

- Highest recoveries of protein samples (95% - 99% of loaded sample)
- Highest resolution separations
- Reproducibility
- High sample loading capacity (3X higher than most standard RP columns)
- Lifetime



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## mRP-C18 Protein Fractionation Column

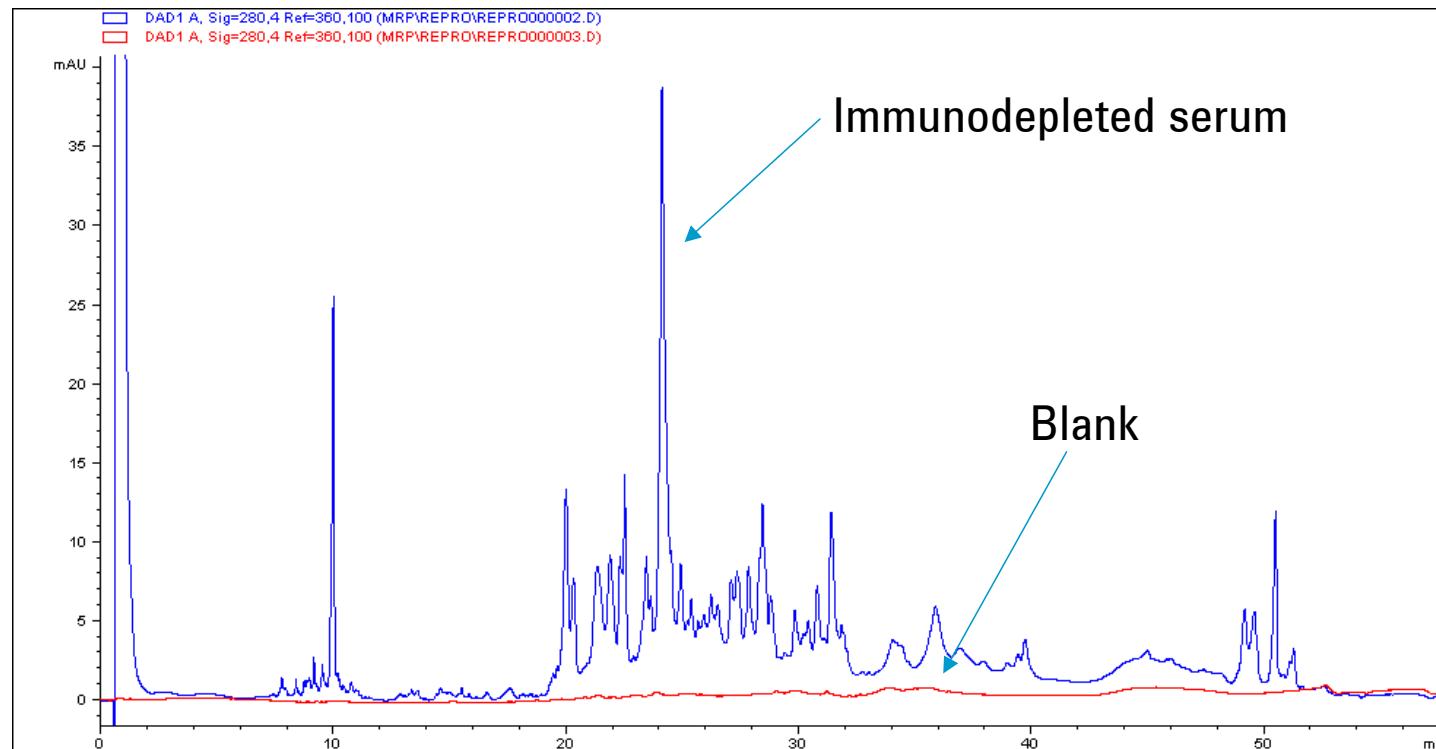


### Key Applications:

- Positioned to be used after MARS protein depletion for further fractionation (eliminates need to concentrate & de-salt)
- Can be used for a wide variety of sample types for protein prefractionation, desalting and concentrating applications, including:
  - Whole cell lysates
  - High recovery membrane protein fractionation



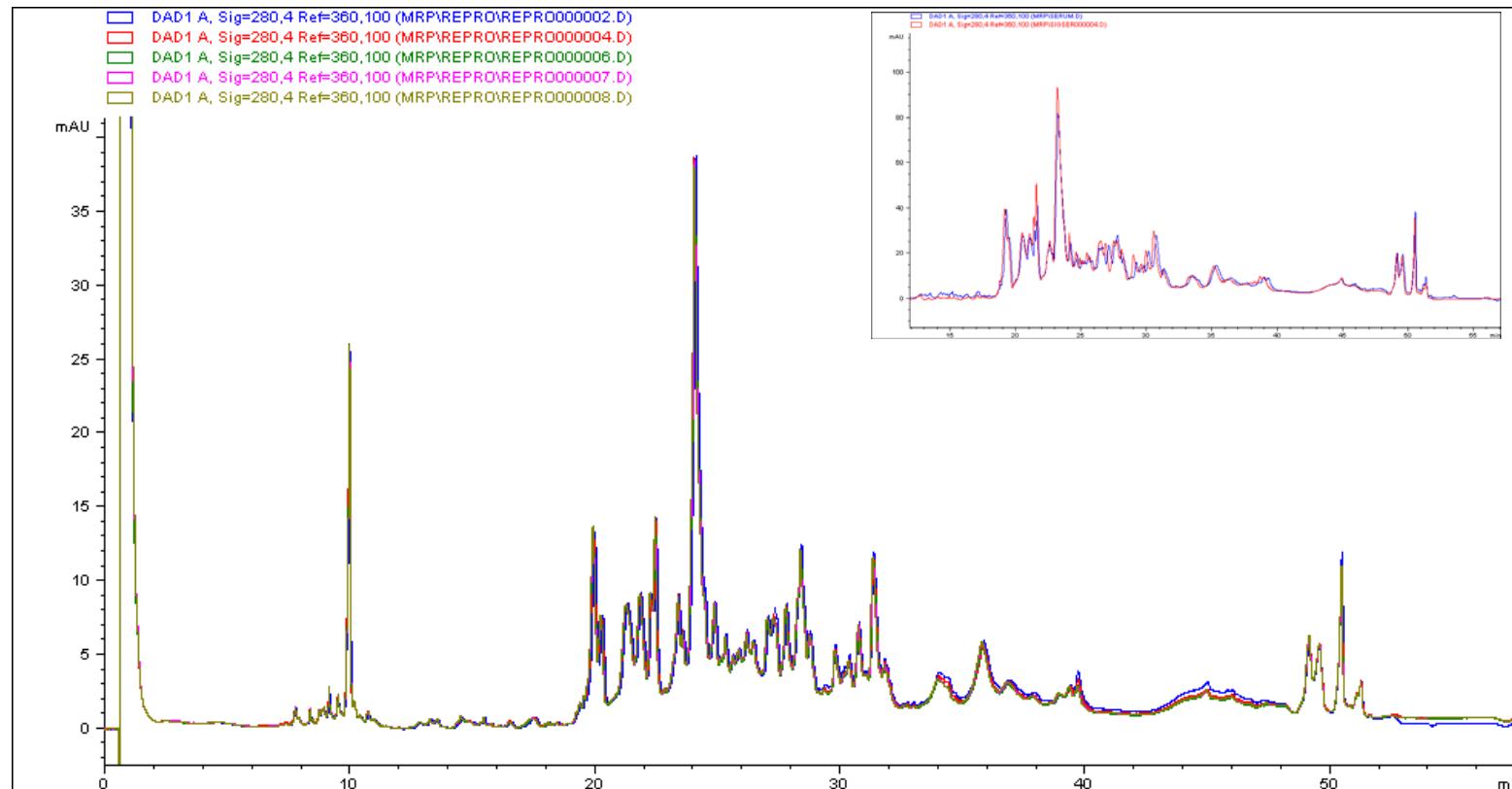
## mRP-C18 Recovery using Immunodepleted Serum



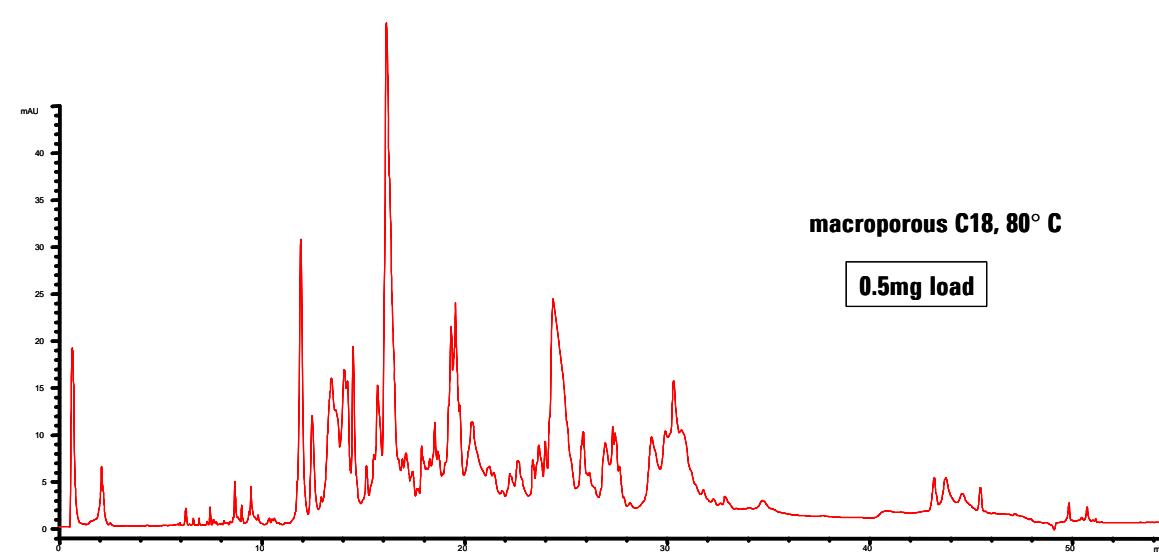
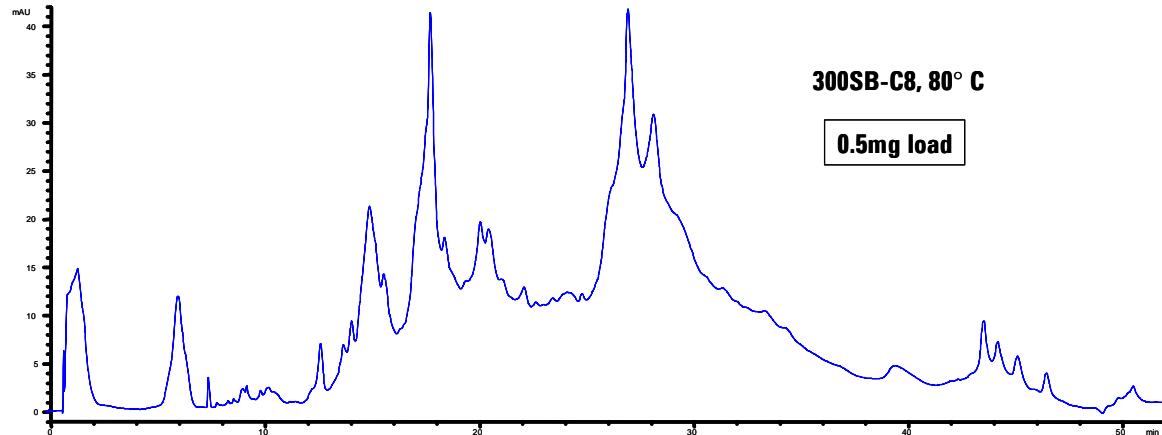
Protein Conc. Pre-mRP*	Protein Conc. No column	Protein Conc. mRP recovery	% recovery
47 µg	49.8 µg	49.3 µg	99%



## mRP-C18 Reproducibility



## RP Load Tolerance Comparisons



Conditions: mRP-C18, 4.6 mm ID x 50 mm; 0.75 mL/min.  
Sample: Immunodepleted Human serum (500 ug Protein) in 6M urea/1% HOAc  
A – 0.1% TFA in water, B – 0.08% TFA in AcN  
3-30% B in 6 min, 30-55% B in 33 min, 55-100% B in 10 min



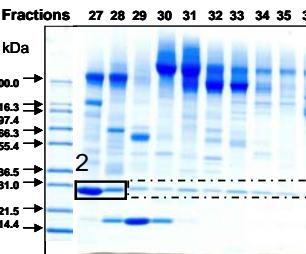
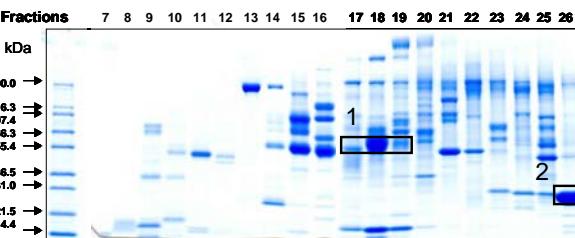
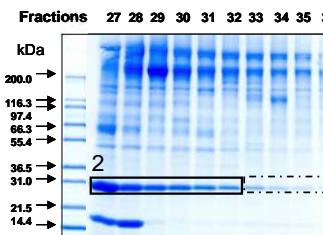
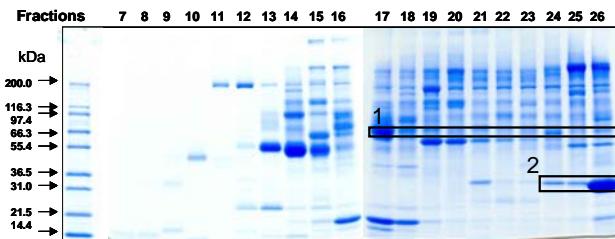
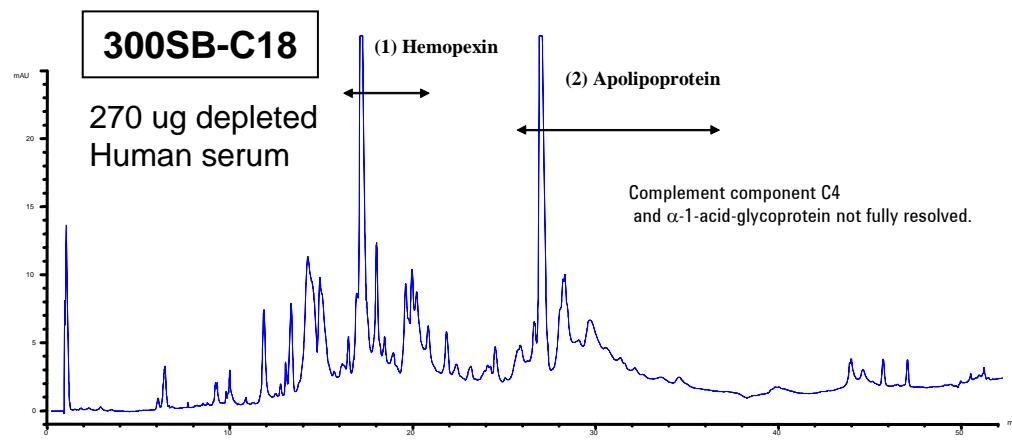
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## Column Comparison of Separation Efficiency



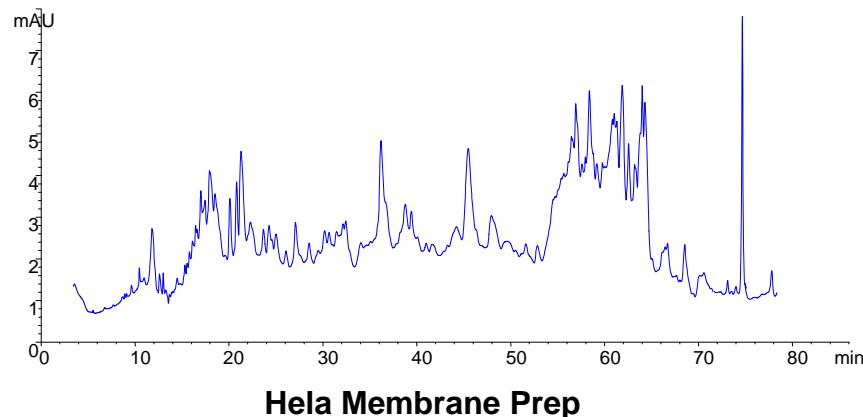
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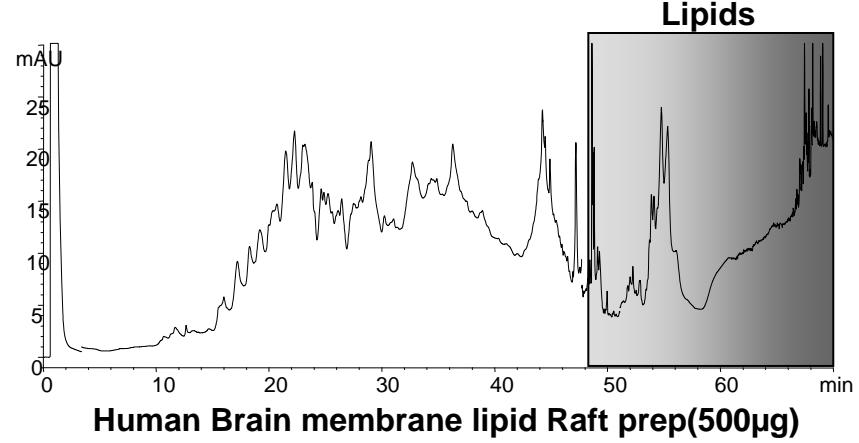
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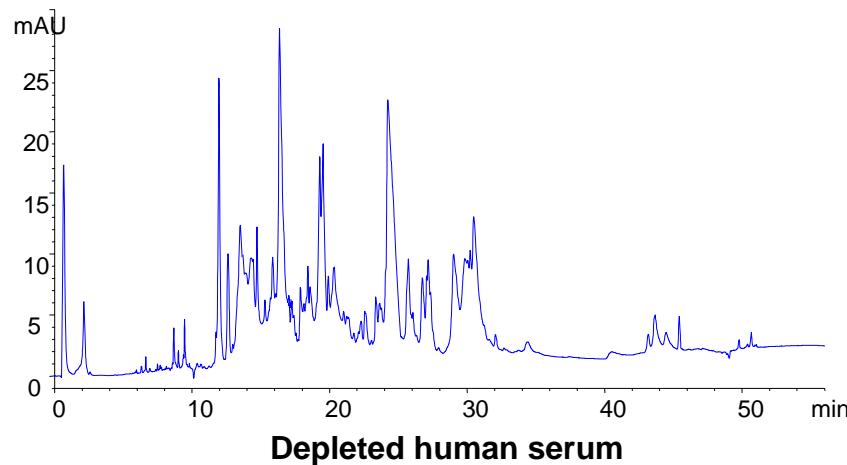
## Applications for mRP-C18: Protein Fractionation



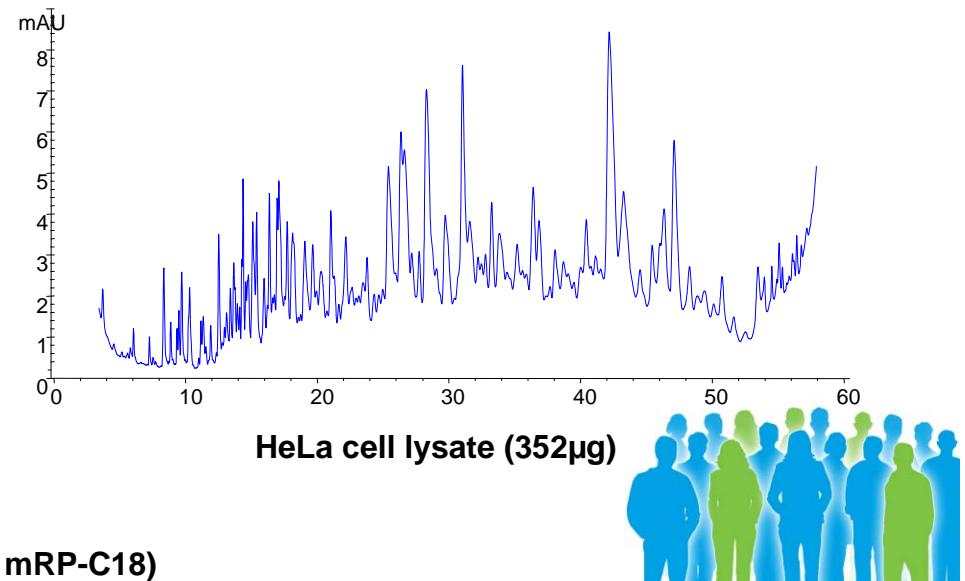
Hela Membrane Prep



Human Brain membrane lipid Raft prep(500µg)



Depleted human serum



HeLa cell lysate (352µg)

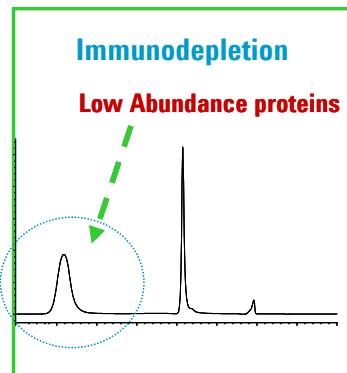
(4.6 x 50mm mRP-C18)



# mRP Fractionation of Depleted Human Serum

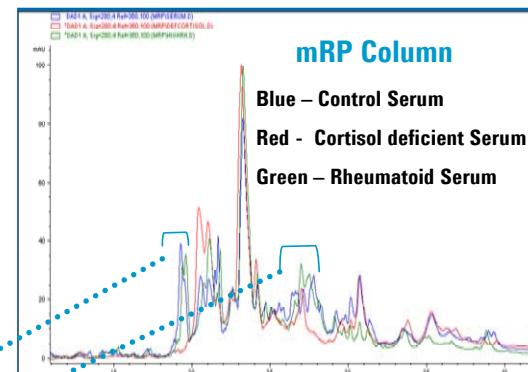
1D

A. Removal of 6 most abundant Proteins



2D

B. Fractionation of the low abundant proteins



LC/MS system

2 Fractions Analyzed by MS

Tryptic digestion



3D(+ 4D)

Data Analysis

serum #	def. Cort. # spectra total intensity	High Rheumatoid # spectra total intensity	# Unique Peptides	Score	Protein
14	0	4	12	178.37	Hfactor 1 (complement)
3.09E+07	0.00E+00	8.15E+06			
8	0	9	8	2.26E+07	apolipoprotein H (beta-2-glycoprotein I)
1.94E+07	0.00E+00				
0	3	1	3	4.65E+06	ceruloplasmin
0.00E+00	0.00E+00				
0	0	2	2	3.54E+06	complement component 1 inhibitor precursor
0.00E+00	0.00E+00				
2	0	0	2	8.65E+06	apolipoprotein C-III precursor
1.84E+06	0.00E+00				
1	0	2	2	0.00E+00	complement factor B preproprotein
0.00E+00	0.00E+00				
0	0	2	2	3.13E+06	hemopexin
0.00E+00	0.00E+00				
0	0	2	2	3.40E+06	alpha-1-acid glycoprotein 2 precursor
0.00E+00	0.00E+00				
0	0	2	2	4.13E+06	
0.00E+00	0.00E+00				
0	0	2	2	24.99	
0.00E+00	0.00E+00				
0	0	2	2	24.77	
0.00E+00	0.00E+00				



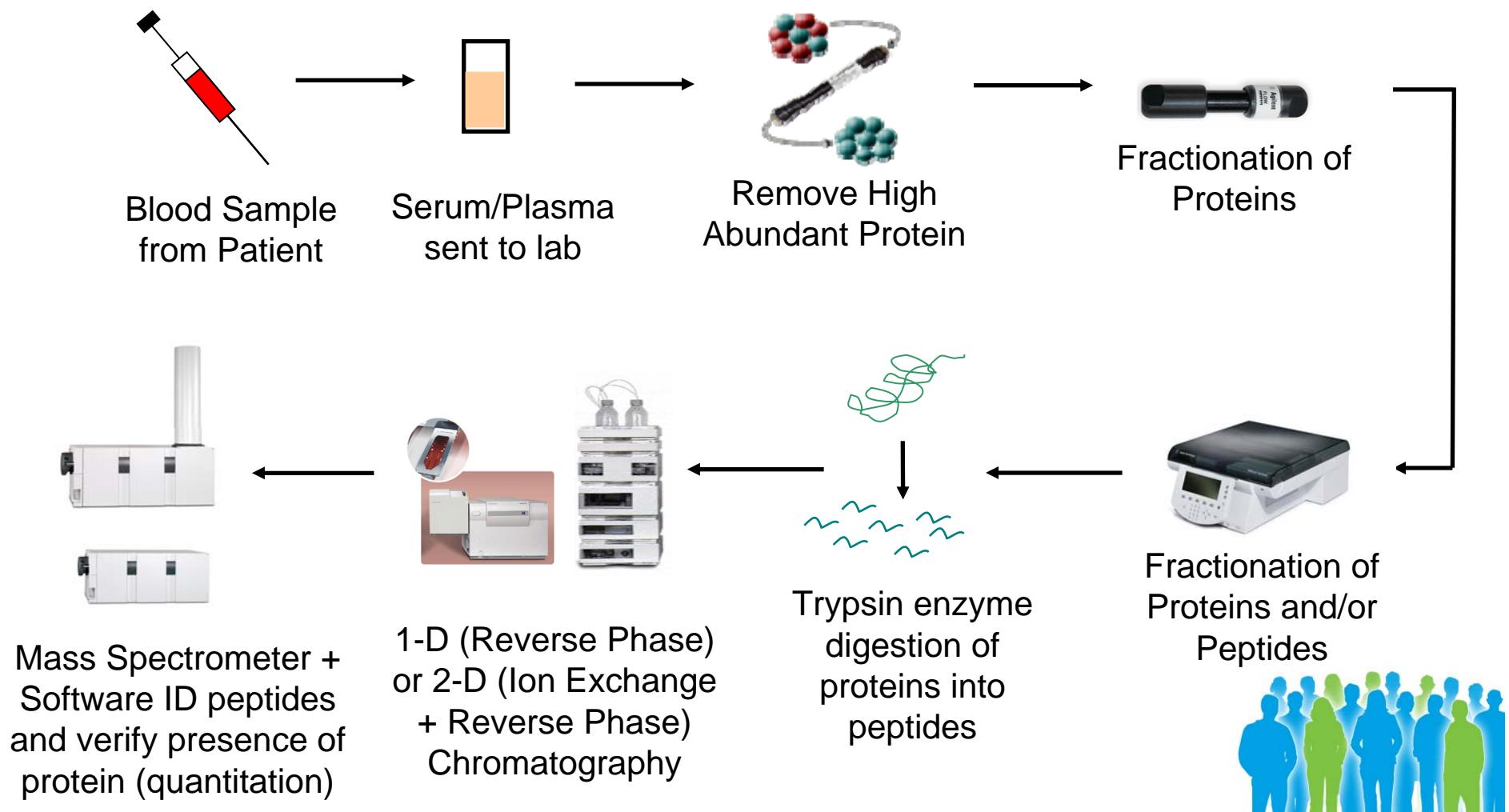
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## Serum Proteomics Workflow



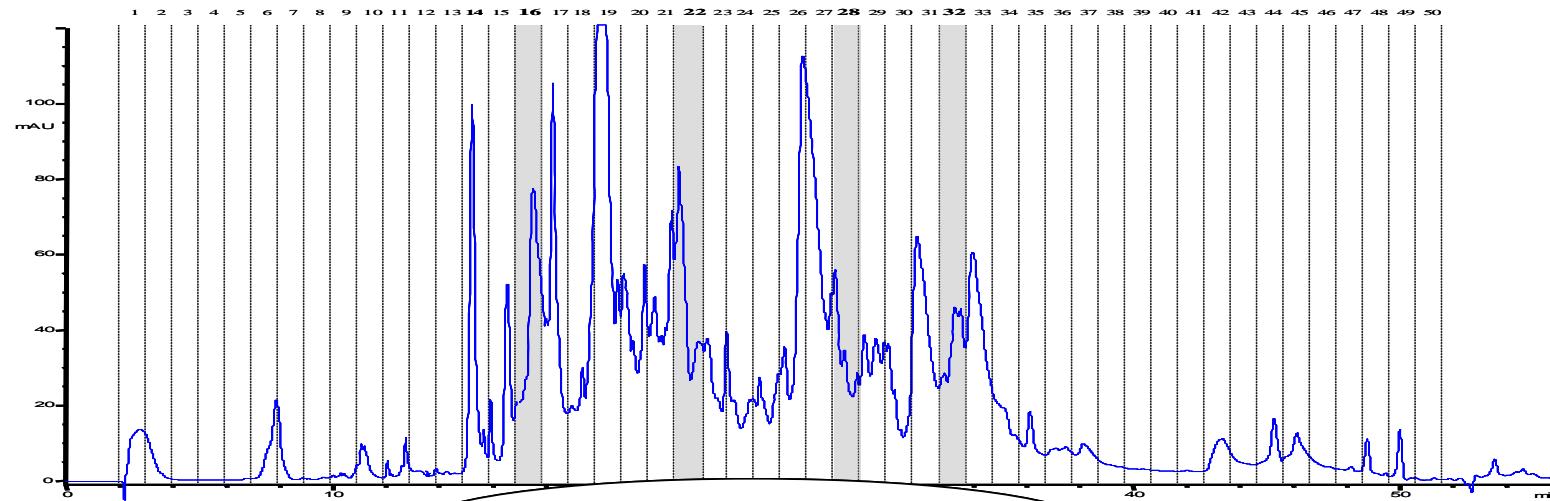
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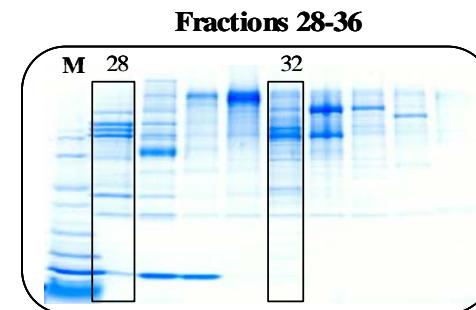
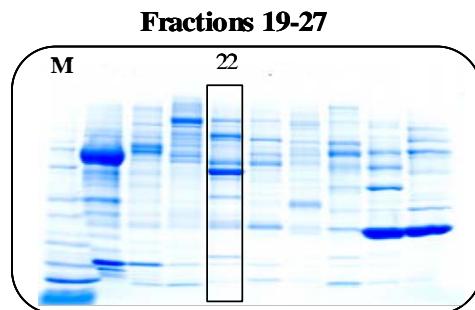
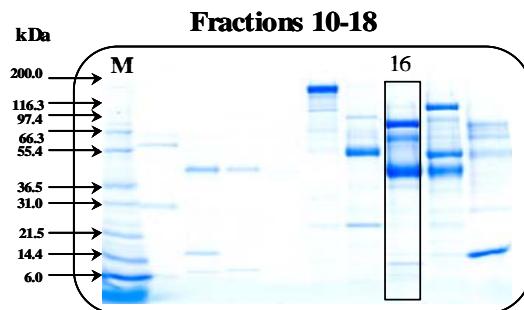
IDENTIFY

## mRP Fractionation of Depleted Human Serum



4 – 20% SDS PAGE (reducing)

M = Mark 12 Standards



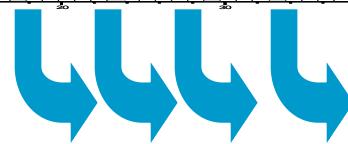
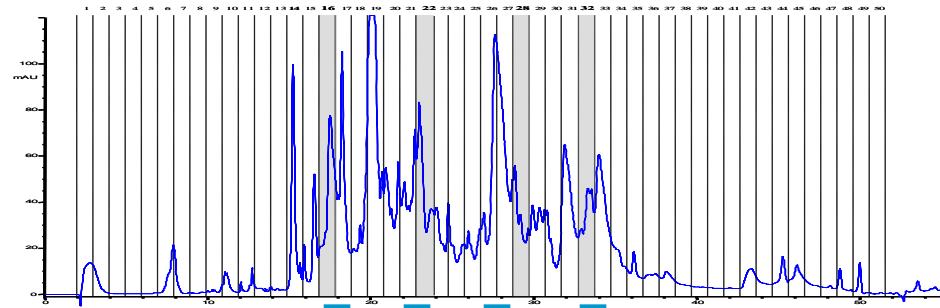
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## mRP Fractionation of Depleted Human Serum

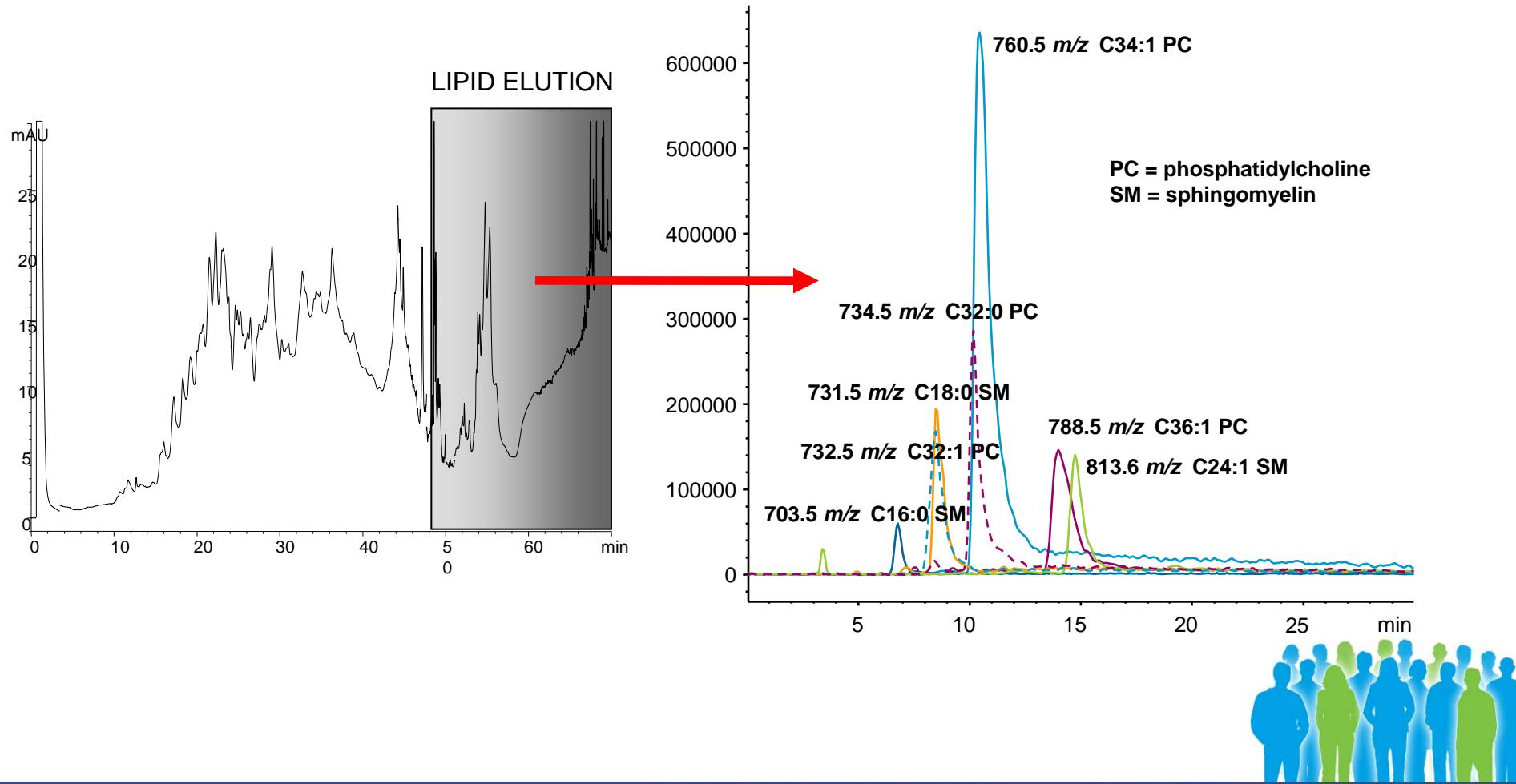


In-solution tryptic digest of each fraction

SAMPLE	Total Acquisition Time (hours)	# MS/MS Collected	# Proteins Identified
Human Serum**	36	67,997	40
Immunodepleted Human Serum	24	46,808	170
Fraction #16	22	59,767	144
Fraction #22	22	59,598	114
Fraction #28	22	58,473	96
Fraction #32	22	54,758	107
Combined Fractions	88	232,596	461



# **Human Brain Membrane Lipid Raft Prep (500µg)**



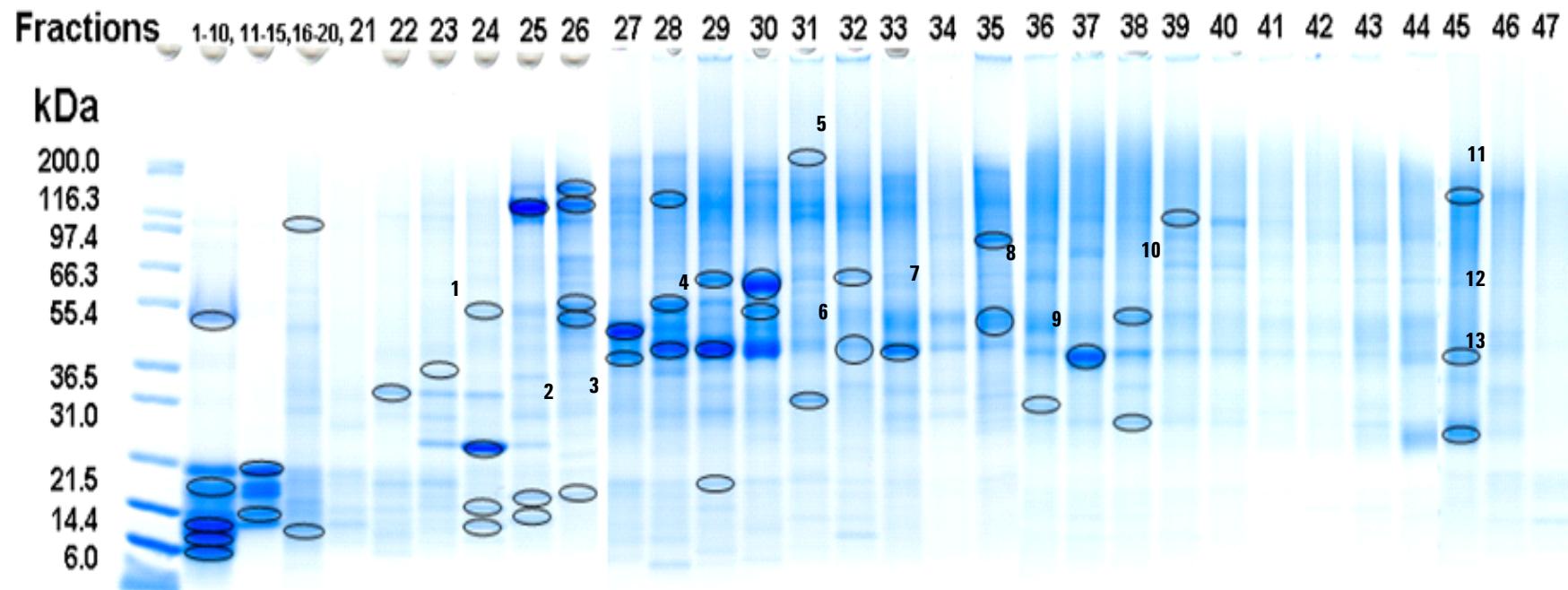
SIMPLIFY

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## Human Brain Membrane Lipid Raft Prep



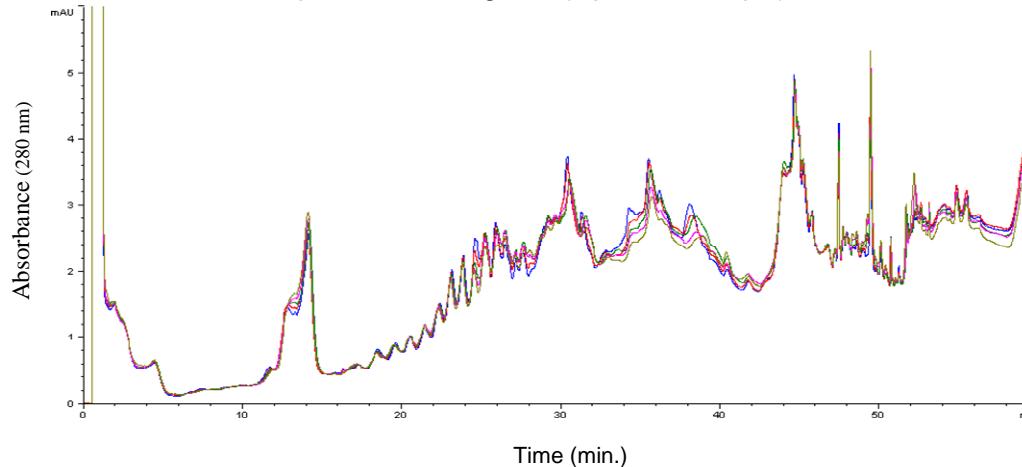
### Selected Excised Bands Which are Integral Membrane Proteins

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Voltage-Dependent Anion Selective Channel Protein 1 | 8. ATP Synthase alpha chain                      |
| 2. Cytochrome C Oxidase subunit IV (COX IV)            | 9. Vacuolar ATP Synthase Subunit D               |
| 3. Cytochrome C Oxidase subunit IV (COX IV)            | 10. Vacuolar ATP Synthase Subunit B              |
| 4. 2',3'-Cyclic-Nucleotide 3"-Phosphodiesterase (CNP)  | 11. Contactin Associated Protein                 |
| 5. Spectrin Alpha Chain, Brain (Alpha-II Spectrin)     | 12. Vacuolar ATP Synthase Subunit C              |
| 6. Vacuolar ATP Synthase Subunit E                     | 13. ATP Synthase Chain B                         |
| 7. Creatine Kinase, B Chain                            | 14. Thy-1 Membrane Glycoprotein Precursor (Thy1) |

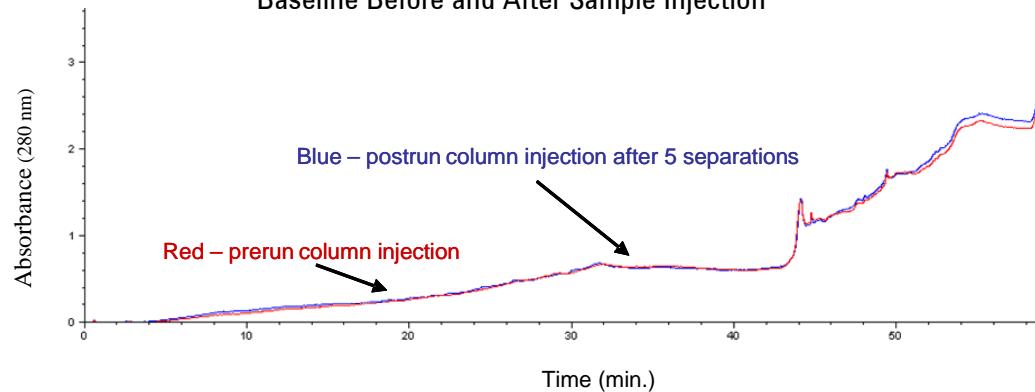


# Human Brain Membrane Lipid Raft Prep: Reproducibility and Baseline Stability

Overlay of 5 Chromatograms (Lipid Raft Sample)



Baseline Before and After Sample Injection



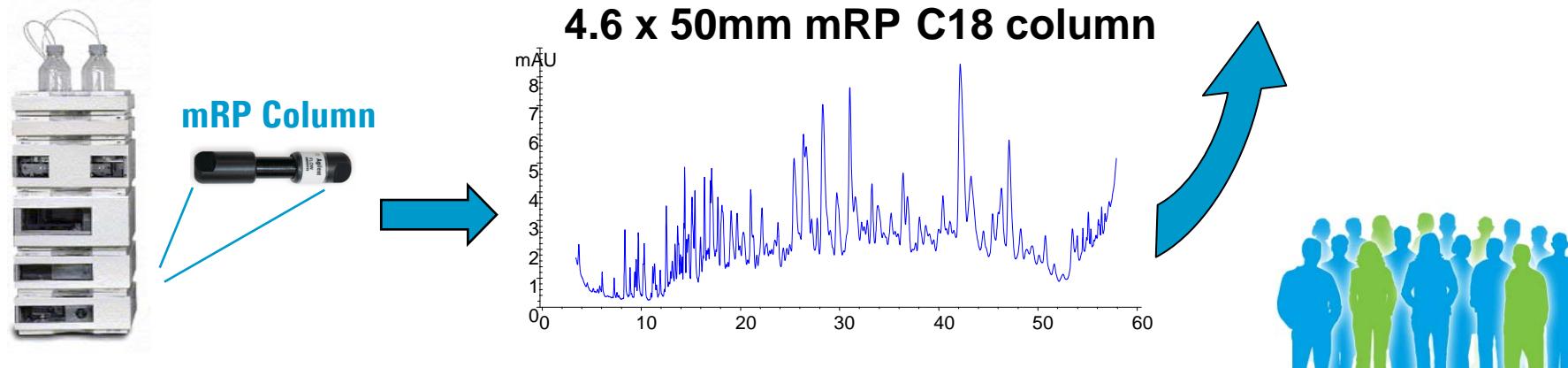
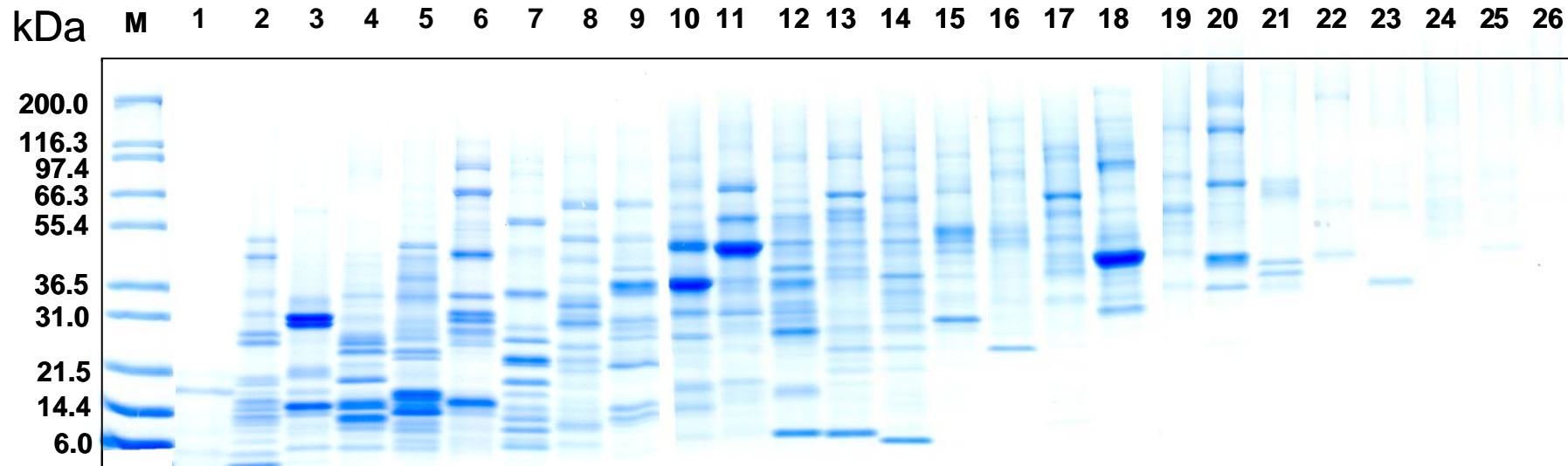
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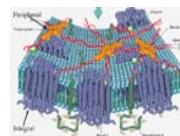
IDENTIFY

## Hela Cell Lysate mRP Fractionation



## Hela Cell Membrane Protein Fractionation and ID

### HeLa Cell Membrane Proteins



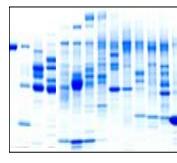
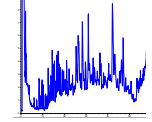
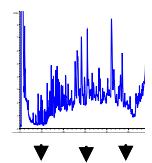
solubilization



HeLa Membranes

### Strategy 1 In-Gel Digestion

Total man hours (labor) 3-4 days



1D nano-chip LC/MS/MS

2D nano-chip LC/MS/MS

### Strategy 2 In-Solution Digestion

Total man hours (labor) 4 hours

	Total Acquisition Time (hrs)	# MS/MS Spectra Collected	# Distinct Peptides Matched	# Total Proteins Identified	# Membrane Proteins Identified	# Integral Membrane Proteins Identified
Strategy 1	216 gel bands	108	486,700	3841	688	364
Strategy 2	17 mRP fractions	102	412,741	5383	954	470



## Summary

mRP is a Reverse Phase column for protein separation and fractionation, offering:

- Highest recoveries of protein samples (95% - 99% of loaded sample)
- Highest resolution separations
- Reproducibility
- High sample loading capacity (3X higher than most standard RP columns)
- Lifetime

### Key Applications:

- Positioned to be used after MARS protein depletion for further fractionation (eliminates need to concentrate & de-salt)
- Fractionation of protein in a wide variety of sample types including:
  - Whole cell lysates
  - High recovery membrane protein fractionation



# mRP-OFFGEL Selection Guide

	Fractionation of complex samples in-liquid phase for maximum resolution and sensitivity	
	Macroporous Reverse Phase (mRP)	OFFGEL Electrophoresis
<b>Brief Description</b>	HPLC Column for protein fractionation	Instrumentation and consumable kits for protein and peptide fractionation
<b>Target Applications</b>	Protein Discovery & Characterization, Biomarker Validation	Protein Discovery, Protein Characterization
<b>sample types</b>	proteins	proteins or peptides
<b>Operating conditions</b>	70-80°C, reverse phase	cooled samples, aqueous buffer
<b>Downstream Compatibility</b>		LC-MS*, LC-UV, MALDI*, 2-D gels
<b>loadable sample amount</b>	2µg-380 µg	50µg-5mg
<b>fractionation principle</b>	<b>reverse phase (hydrophobicity)</b>	<b>isoelectric point (<i>pI</i>)-based</b>
<b>run-time</b>	60 min/gradient	8 hours-36 hours, up to 16 samples in parallel
<b>recovery</b>	95-99%	protein: 70%, peptides: >80%
<b>Knowledge Transfer</b>	no need for additional HPLC training, similar to any other reverse phase separation	2-D gel users can easily transfer IEF parameters to OFFGEL fractionations or validate OFFGEL vs. in-gel IEF
<b>How to use mRP and OGE together</b>	OFFGEL protein fractionation followed by mRP for second dimension fractionation and desalting	

\* *pI* of fractions can be used as an additional validation parameter for MS results



SIMPLIFY

FRACTIONATE

SEPARATE

IDENTIFY

# *Thank you for attending!*

To learn more about the sample simplification with the Multiple Affinity Removal System, visit the **NEW Solution Source** for BioSeparations at [www.agilent.com/chem/fractionate1](http://www.agilent.com/chem/fractionate1)

To reserve your space for the next e-Seminar, register today.

## Upcoming e-Seminars

SEPARATE - Reverse-Phase Separation of Proteins, Peptide, and Other Bio-Molecules

IDENTIFY - Identify, Characterize and Measure Bio-molecules in a Variety of Sample Sources



# Upcoming Proteomics e-Seminars

"Integration of MassProfiler and Metlin ID software into the MassHunter QUAL Software" – David Weil, Application Engineer, Agilent Technologies

**April 10, 2008 – 11:00 am EDT**

"Biomarker Discovery by Targeted and Profiling Proteomics" - Professor Rainer Bischoff, Analytical Biochemistry, University of Groningen

**April 24, 2008 – 11:00 am EDT**

"Protein Analysis Using CAD/ETD Ion Trap Tandem Mass Spectrometry" - Professor Ole Norregard Jensen, Protein Research Group at University of Southern Denmark

**May 8, 2008 – 11:00 am EDT**

"Peptide Quantitation With An Agilent 6410 QQQ System" - Ning Tang, Application Scientist, Agilent Technologies, Inc.

**June 26, 2008 – 11:00 am EDT**

Register for these eSeminars at

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