

Review Summary – CH370 / 387D - Exam 2

Review of Nucleic Acids: Structures / Folding

Know N Bases; Primary & Secondary structure: double helix by Watson & Crick -1953
Nucleotide pairings: Watson-Crick
Conformations of nucleosides - syn / anti; Sugar pucker: endo or exo
Stabilization (destabilization) Hydrogen Bonding / Electrostatics / Stacking
Denatured DNA: Heat denaturation of DNA is called "melting," T_m / hypochromism.

Radioactivity and Counting

Radioactive decay processes (α / β^+ / β^- / E.C.); Radioactivity rays (γ -rays)
Half life: $A = A_0 \exp(-kt)$ where $k = \ln 2 / \text{half-life}$
Measurement of Radioactivity: Geiger Counter / Film / PhosphorImagers / LSC
Liquid Scintillation Counting: Excited solvent / 1° "fluor" / 2° "fluor" / PM

Electrophoresis – transport of charged particle in an electric field.

Theory: $F_{\text{tot}} = qE - f v = ma = m(dv/dt) = 0$; $v = (qE/f)$
 $f = 6\pi\eta R$ for spheres; $\eta = \text{Viscosity} \sim 0.01 \text{g}/(\text{cm}\cdot\text{sec})$
Ferguson Plots: electrophoretic mobility reflects both charge and size/shape
Methods: slab / tube / seq. gels / (native; denatured) / Disc. Gel / PAGE / PFGE / IEF / CE
SDS-PAGE (subunit MW) / buffer system / stains; IEF gels / 2D-PAGE

Centrifugation

Theory: $F_{\text{tot}} = m_{\text{eff}}\omega^2 r - f v = m\omega^2 r(1 - v'\rho) - f v = ma = m(dv/dt) = 0$; (v' is "v bar")
Preparative Methods: RCF / Rotors / Density Gradient: Zonal vs. Isopycnic Methods
Analytical Methods / Modern Analytical Ultracentrifuge
Optics: **Schlieren** ($a = aK(dc/dx)$); **Interference** ($DJ = (aK Dc)/\lambda$); **Abspt. optics** ($A \sim c$)
Sedimentation Velocity: $s = v/\omega^2 r = (m(1 - v'\rho)/f)$; \rightarrow plot ($\ln r$) vs. $t \rightarrow$ slope = sw^2
Sed. Vel. plus Diffusion: $D = (kT/f) = (RT/N^0 f)$; $\rightarrow s = MD(1 - n'r)/RT$
Sedimentation Equil.: $\ln c_r - \ln c_{r_m} = [Mw^2(1 - n'r)/(2RT)](r^2 - r_m^2) \rightarrow$ plot $\ln c$ vs. r^2

Light Scattering: "Static" vs. "Dynamic"

Rayleigh (Static) Scattering – $i/I_0 = N[8\pi^4\alpha^2 / r^2\lambda^4](1 + \cos^2\theta)$ for unpolarized radiation.
Raleigh Ratio: $R_\theta = (i_\theta / I_0)(r^2 / (1 + \cos^2\theta)) = [2\pi^2 n_0^2 (dn/dc)^2 / \lambda^4 N_0^2] CM$ or $R_q = KCM$
 $KC/R_\theta = 1/(M^*P(\theta)) + 2 A_2C$; Mean Square Radius (R_g) 10 nm to 150 nm
Dynamic Light Scattering – Hydrodynamic (Stokes) Radius (R_h) 1.5 to 1000 nm
Experimental (Use of LS and RI); $LS = K_{LS}CM(dn/dC)^2$; $RI = K_{RI}C(dn/dC)$
or $LS/RI = M[(K_{LS}/K_{RI})(dn/dC)]$ or $M = K'(LS)/(RI)$
Polydispersity (Mw/Mn); If normalized, LS = RI for monomer but LS = 2*RI for dimer

CD

Special type of spectroscopy - meas. the difference in left and right handed absorbance $A(l) - A(r)$.
The instrument: measurements in far UV **170-240 nm (proteins)**; **170-300 nm (nucleic acids)**.
CD spectra can distinguish types of secondary structure (helix, sheet, r.coil / B-DNA, A-DNA) etc.
Applications: Folding / Secondary Structure / Denaturation / Thermal Stability