

Improving Biosensor Analysis: Finding the Common Ground

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Sartorius Stedim Biotech Group

SPR throughout drug discovery







Better

 Imagine your progress if you had characterization-like data earlier on

Faster

- Imagine your progress if you had increased amounts of data faster
- ~1,200 kinetic results in 24 hours

Stronger

- Imagine your progress if you had increased confidence in your data
 - Increasing biological relevance

Potential savings of millions of dollars and years of research time

Back to the future















It's not magic!











Better - assay setup





 It's all about controlling the variables to ensure assay are accurate and precise



Better – the sleeping pill analogy





Better – the sleeping pill analogy



20 years on



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Improving biosensor analysis

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The quality of optical biosensor data must be improved in order to characterize the mechanism and rate constants associated with molecular interactions. Many of the artifacts associated with binding data can be minimized or eliminated by designing the experiment properly, collecting data under optimum conditions and processing the data with reference surfaces. It is possible to globally fit high-quality biosensor data with simple bimolecular reaction models, which validates the technology as a biophysical tool for interaction analysis. Copyright © 1999 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

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It's not magic!





KISS – Keep It Simple Stupid



- "the inability to fit data to a simple model is often a result of how the experiments are run and not a flaw in the technology"
- What question are you trying to answer?
 - Start with the end in mind
 - Do you want to know the kinetics of a single interaction or against a large panel of antibodies?
 - Do you just want a yes / no screen of a panel of antibodies or targets?
 - Do you want to know the affinity of an interaction but don't mind if you don't know the kinetics?
 - Do you want to toggle-switch epitope select antibodies?... the list is endless!



- 20 years ago Rmax was well defined at levels of <10 RU but still to this day people run assays where the observed responses are in the hundreds, maybe thousands
- This is not only unnecessary but also detrimental to measuring an accurate affinity





- In general when measuring antibodies, their bivalent nature can give rise to avidity effects and kinetic analysis can become challenging
- By decreasing the response levels, these avidity effects start to disappear and a 1:1 binding model dominates
- There is a lower end to this where signals become close to instrument noise and therefore, it's important to find the 'Goldilocks zone' for your assay (and machine)

The Goldilocks Zone





KISS – Baseline drift







- Biological macromolecules often show a proclivity to interact with surfaces.
- Assess the non-specific binding of your analyte to the sensor chip surface prior to performing the assay
- Inject the highest concentration to be assessed across a nonderivatised surface
- Assess the sensorgram, square or tailing?
- Choose assay orientation and buffer based on results



- "the goal of most SPR assays is to describe the data using the simplest model possible"
- It is important to minimise the potential avidity effects of multivalent molecules





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Assay orientation allows you to control multiple parameters both intra- and inter-assay









Putting it all together





- The Customer is in the process of developing a novel anti-XYZ FAb fragment and have, through affinity maturation and "hot spot removal", generated 8 different anti- XYZ binders with identical epitopes and nearly identical Complementarity-determining regions (CDRs). In addition, one XYZ binder with different CDRs may be assessed.
- The customer has requested an assay package using SPR to determine the ability of Antibody Analytics to determine the absolute affinities of the FAb fragments and relative active concentrations of stressed samples to prove whether "hot spot removal" has been successful.



•
$$R_{ligand} = \frac{R_{max} * Mr_{ligand}}{Mr_{analyte} * Valency_{ligand}}$$

• Rligand = (50*16,000) / (50,000 * 1) = 16 RU









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 Assess multiple concentration series to find the Goldilocks zone and/or reassess your setup









-8.8

Ch 5





NSB test



Ch 8





All together

High Throughput





SAM43-31-0







Antibody Analytics - Carterra



- The customer was interested to see whether the Carterra LSA machine could produce similar data than my Biacore 8K
- Yas and I decided to do a little test!
- I sent her the samples, some AviTag XYZ and the KD of the reference standard, told her the general setup (assay orientation) but nothing else, the rest was up to her and the LSA





The samples

Surface Prep Array – capture biotin-XYZ in the 96PH



- Prepare biotin-XYZ as 17membered 2fold series (5µg/ml – 76pg/ml) in either pH7.4 (HBSET) or pH4.5 (10 mM sodium acetate), to see how pH affects their preconcentration and capture efficiency
- Dispense each set of samples (pH7.4 and pH4.5) into duplicate wells of a 96plate and fill remaining wells with respective buffer (blanks)
- Capture the 96well plate of samples in parallel using the 96-channel printhead (96PH) onto print blocks 1, 2, 3, and 4 in series by serially docking/undocking the 96PH (re-using the same samples, returned to plate after each draw).
- Final 384-array contains (68x4) 272-ligand coated spots and (28x4) 112 blank spots, with each ligand concentration represented 16x within the array (8x in HBSET and 8x in acetate)
- Reconstituting the biotin-XYZ in pH4.5 yielded 2x higher capture levels for samples >1ug/ml, but levels dropped off faster than pH7.4, possibly due to solubility issues



Fab#2 – 126 spots of data ranked by R_{max} (high to low)

490 Rmax





Onrate Stats - surfaces grouped by capture conc (µg/ml) and buffer



Mean +/- StDev or 4-8 reps (spots) per capture condition



Offrate Stats - surfaces grouped by capture conc (µg/ml) and buffer



Mean +/- StDev or 4-8 reps (spots) per capture condition



Affinity Stats - surfaces grouped by capture conc (µg/ml) and buffer



Mean +/- StDev or 4-8 reps (spots) per capture condition



Rank	Antibody Analytic (sample number)	Carterra (Sample number)	Antibody Analytics (KD, nM)	Carterra (KD, nM)	Difference in KD	
1	10	10	10.4	8	N/A	
2	3	11	10.5	12	0.9	
3	11	3	11.1	12	1.5	
4	2	7	12.6	13	-0.7	
5	7	2	13.7	13	0.4	
6					-4.3	
7	Aver	Average difference between -2				
8		age anoi		N/A		
9		Top 10 is -0.7 nM				
10						
11	8	4	30.9	29	-2.9	
12	4	8	31.9	30	-0.9	
13	20	12	32.7	34	-0.4	
14	9	20	33.3	34	1.3	
15	12	24	34.4	40	-6.7	
16	24	21	46.7	52	-22.2	
17	17	9	50.6	52	18.7	
18	13	17	58.2	55	4.4	
19	5	5	58.9	55	N/A	
20	21	13	74.2	87	28.8	
21	14	6	1160	335	-1140.8	
22	6	14	1475.8	383	-777	
23	22	22	4330	453	N/A	







Antibody Analytics Kd (1/s)









- Following the basics that were laid out over 20 years ago for SPR can still yield excellent data
- KISS you can always make it more complicated
- In a blind study, Yas and I generated near identical data using different machines but a similar approach

Potential savings of millions of dollars and years of research time

Acknowledgments



