diDO-IPTL protocol Version 3

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Abstract

Isobaric peptide termini labeling (IPTL) is a quantification method which permits relative quantification using quantification points distributed throughout the whole tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) spectrum. It is based on the complementary derivatization of peptide termini with different isotopes resulting in isobaric peptides.

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Protocol

DAY 1

Step 1.

Prepare dried MS-grade trypsin, 2ug per sample to be labeled. Note that separate aliquots of dried trypsin must be used for ¹⁶O- and ¹⁸O-labeling.

DAY 1

Step 2.

Prepare two separate N-methylmorpholine (NMM) and acetic acid O-isotope exchange buffers with 16 O and 18 O (>98%) enriched water. Volume ratio of buffer components is 48.5 H_2 O : 1 NMM : 0.5 acetic acid (pH 7.4). The total volume of buffer to prepare depends on how many peptide samples are to be labeled. The protocol below is for 40µL of O-isotope exchange buffer per sample (10-20 µg of peptide). For samples with small amounts of peptide, the concentration can be raised by adding only 20µL buffer per sample and halving the volumes of all subsequent reagent additions.

DAY 1

Step 3.

Redissolve dried trypsin aliquots in their respective O-isotope exchange buffers and transfer 40µl to each tube of dried peptide sample. KEEP TRACK of which tubes received which buffer.

DAY 1

Step 4.

Parafilm the tops of the tubes and incubate at 37°C overnight.

DAY 2

Step 5.

After overnight incubation, add 2μ l of 11.3M monochloroacetic acid (prepared in LC-MS grade water) to each peptide tube to lower pH down to 2.6.

DAY 2

Step 6.

Prepare 16% CH₂O and CD₂O formaldehyde solutions, at least 2μl per sample, diluting stocks with LC-MS grade water if necessary.

DAY 2

Step 7.

Prepare 4.8M NaBH₃CN in LC-MS water. Tare 1.5mL tube, add a small amount of NaBH₃CN powder in fume hood, weigh, dissolve.

DAY 2

Step 8.

Add $2\mu L$ of CH_2O to each ^{18}O tube and $2\mu L$ of CD_2O to each ^{16}O tube.

DAY 2

Step 9.

Add 2µL 4.8M NaBH₃CN to each tube.

DAY 2

Step 10.

Mix well and incubate at 45°C for 1 hr. While waiting, prepare 5M ammonium formate in LC-MS water.

DAY 2

Step 11.

Add 2µL 5M ammonium formate to each tube and mix well.

DAY 2

Step 12.

Add $8\mu L$ of formic acid to each tube and mix well. Total sample volume is $56\mu l$. ^{16}O - and ^{18}O -labeled samples are ready to be mixed and analyzed by LC-MS.