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May 17, 2022

Immunostaining of *Bodo saltans* V.2

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dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.yxmvmnwp5g3p/v2

Symbiosis Model Systems University of Liverpool 1

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This protocol is used in our Laboratory in Liverpool to perform IF on *Bodo saltans* cells.

DOI

dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.yxmvmnwp5g3p/v2

Ewa Chrostek, Mastaneh Ahrar, Gregory Dd Hurst 2022. Immunostaining of *Bodo saltans*. **protocols.io**

<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.yxmvmnwp5g3p/v2>

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Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation's Symbiosis in Aquatic Systems Initiative

Grant ID: #9357 (<https://doi.org/10.37807/GBMF9357>)

A reference to the protocol describing *Bodo saltans* culture conditions (Gomaa et al. 2018) has been added.

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May 17, 2022

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Culture conditions

- 1 *Bodo saltans* was cultured in a cerophyl-based medium enriched with 3.5 mM sodium phosphate dibasic (Na₂HPO₄)¹. Cultures were incubated at 22 °C in T25 tissue culture flasks containing 20

ml of media bacterized with *Klebsiella pneumoniae subsp. Pneumoniae* (ATCC® 700831).

Immunostaining

2 Please, follow the steps below to prepare cells for immunostaining.

2.1 Filter the culture through 100 and 8 µm filter.

2.2 Harvest the cells by centrifugation at 1200 × g for 12 mins at 19 °C.

2.3 Wash the cells with PBS and centrifuge as described above.

2.4 Dissolve the pellet in 15 µl of PBS and mix with the same volume of low melting temperature agarose (eg. Thermo Fisher Scientific) in a single well of a 96-well plate. Let it set for a few seconds.

2.5 Add 200 µl of 4% PFA and incubate at room temperature for 10 minutes or at 4 °C overnight.

2.6 Wash with PTX (PBS + 0,1% TritonX) 4 times, 30 mins each wash.

2.7 Block in 5% FBS+PTX overnight at 4 °C.

2.8 Incubate with primary antibody (1:100, diluted in PTX + 5% FBS), for 5 hours at room temperature or overnight at 4 °C.

2.9 Rinse and wash 3 times for 1 hour with PTX at room temperature.

- 2.10 Incubate with secondary antibody (1:1000, diluted in PTX + 5% FBS) overnight at 4°C.
- 2.11 Rinse and wash 3 times for 1 hour with PTX at room temperature. During 2nd wash add Hoechst 33342 (Thermo Fisher, 1:2000) for 10 minutes. This will be rinsed away with the 3rd wash.
- 2.12 Remove the agarose from the well with clean forceps and place it on a microscope slide.
- 2.13 Add a drop of a mounting medium (eg. Vectashield, Vector Laboratories), and flatten the agarose as much as you can using the coverslip.
- 2.14 Proceed with either fluorescence or confocal imaging.

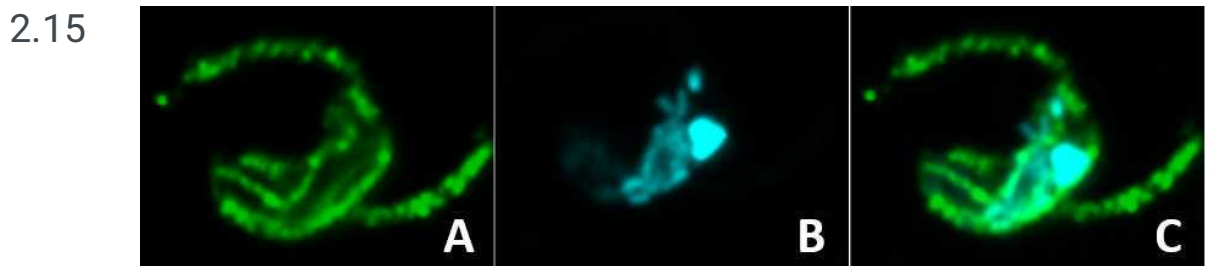


Figure 1: Confocal image of a single fixed *Bodo saltans* stained with beta-tubulin antibody (clone KMX-1, gift from Dr. Jack Sunter (Oxford Brooks) and Prof. Keith Gull (Oxford University)). A) Beta-tubulin. B) DNA of the same of *Bodo* cell (nucleus, kinetoplast and intracellular bacteria) stained with Hoechst 33342. C) Overlay of the two channels.

2.16

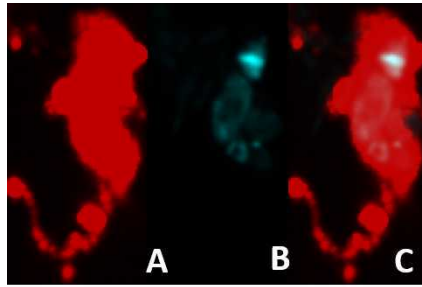


Figure 2: Confocal image of a single fixed *Bodo* cell stained with beta-actin antibody (clone D6A8, Cell Signalling Technology). A) Beta-actin. B) DNA the same of *Bodo* cell (nucleus, kinetoplast and intracellular bacteria) stained with Hoechst 33342 C) Overlay of two channels.

References

- 3 Gomaa Fatma, Li ZuHong, Docampo Roberto, Girguis Peter, E. V. Bodo saltans culture protocol V.2. Protocols.io (2018). doi:10.17504/protocols.io.sh6eb9e