

Bioprocessing Tools & Equipment



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Adrian Filip (Ottawa Bioscience, Ottawa Canada)

David J. Castillo (Glyxon Biolabs, Mexico City, Mexico)

Adrian Jones (Val Des Monts, Québec, Canada)

Alexander Klenov (Pipette Jockey, Toronto, Canada, past contributor)

Alexander Yakovlev (Ottawa Bioscience, Ottawa, Canada)

Vladyslav Boyko (Utah, USA)

And **many more volunteer** collaborators...





What is Bioprocessing? & Why we need tools for it?

“The equipment may be divided in three categories: **upstream**, **downstream**, and **support**. Upstream equipment deals with the **growth** of a host organism to **produce a product**. The product may be the **organisms themselves**, it may be **held internal to the organism**, or it may be **excreted into the growth medium**. **Purification**, for example, **filtration**, and **chromatography** of the resulting harvest from the upstream process is handled by **downstream equipment**. Other pieces of equipment used in **biomanufacturing** such as incubators, utility carts, liquid mixers, holding tanks, bead mills and other cell disruptors can be defined as support equipment”*

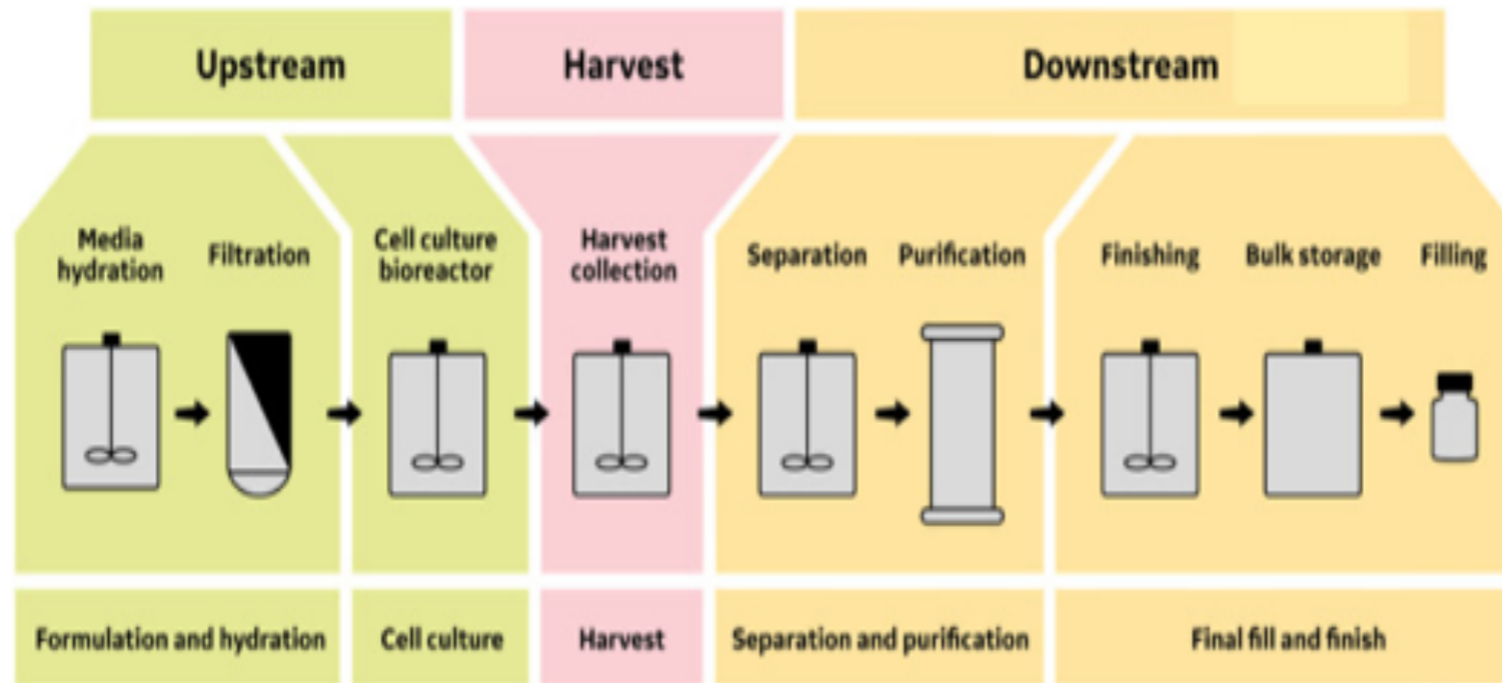
Bioprocess flow diagram, simplified

Grow and produce

Full length organisms

Tissues
(Somatic lines)

Germinal lines
(spores, seeds,
reproduction cells, etc)



Separate and isolate:

Proteins, antibodies

Bacteria, plants and fungi extracts
e.g. :

Antibiotics

Hormones, growth factors

Secondary metabolites, pigments

▲
BIOREACTOR 2020

▲
PROTEOPRESSO 2021

← **WE ARE HERE!!!!!!!!!!**

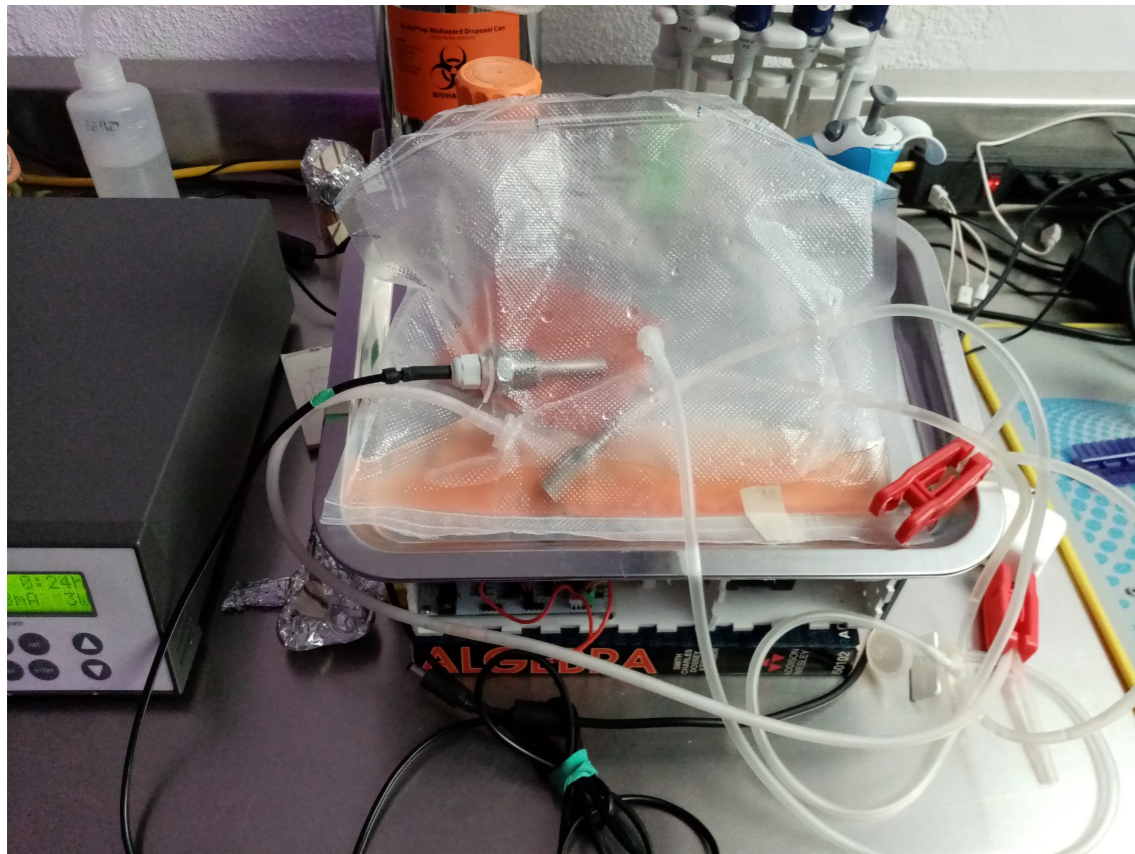
Bioprocessing is the set of techniques, tools and equipment that help us to grow, produce, extract, separate and purify biologically active biomaterials

*Kenneth P. Clapp, ... Eva K. Lindskog, in [Biopharmaceutical Processing](#), 2018

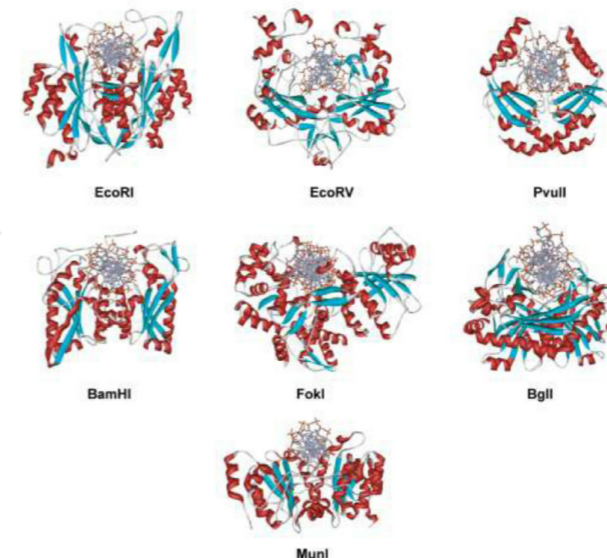


Bioprocessing demand many expensive of stand-alone tools and machinery: incubators, growth temperature controlled rooms, bioreactors, chromatography columns, pumps etc .

The HERE and NOW : SIMPLIFIED INTEGRATION



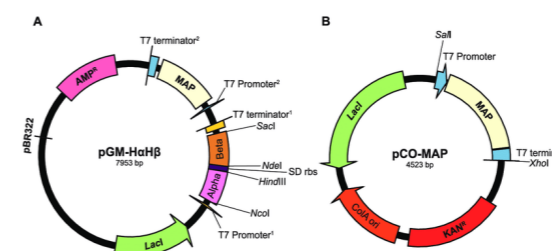
Tissue cultures



Modification enzymes

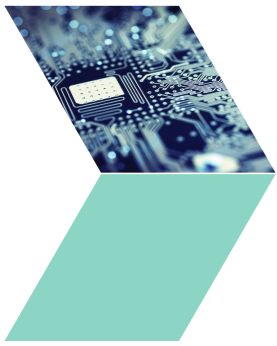
In situ production of molecular reagents, tissues, biomaterials

This could overcome geographical barriers and limited or expensive supply chains.



Vectors, plasmids, N.As.

ACHIEVEMENTS



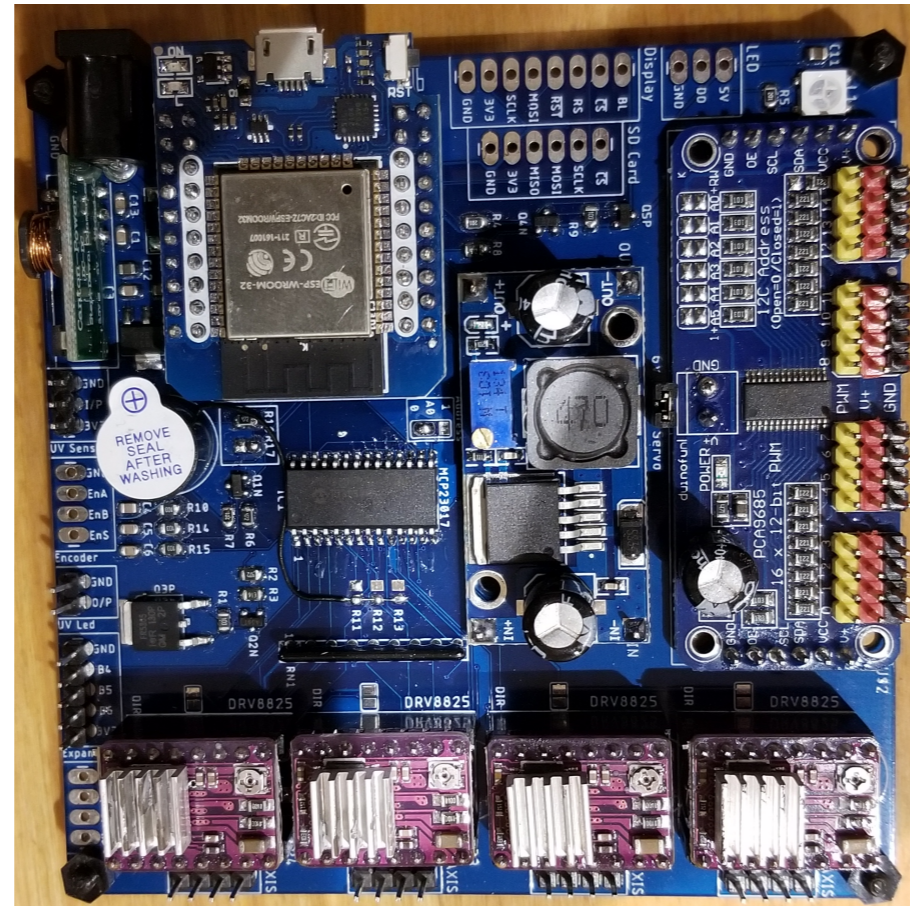
Phase 2

ELECTRONICS: PCB design

A

Chromatography system motherboard (Proteopresso)

NEW BOARD!



MICROCONTROLLER

ESP32 module

UV LED Light

SENSORS

UV photometer

Hydrostatic pressure sensor

Future features (early 2022):

12MP camera for object recognition

To

- Fraction collector
- Liquid handling pipettor
- Cells and tissues 3D printer
- Plate holder

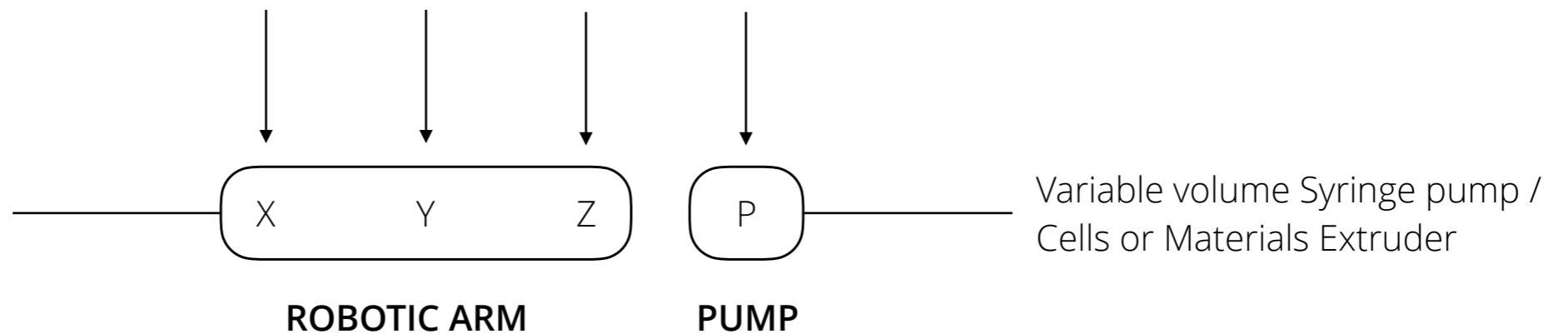
VALVES

16x Servo control board

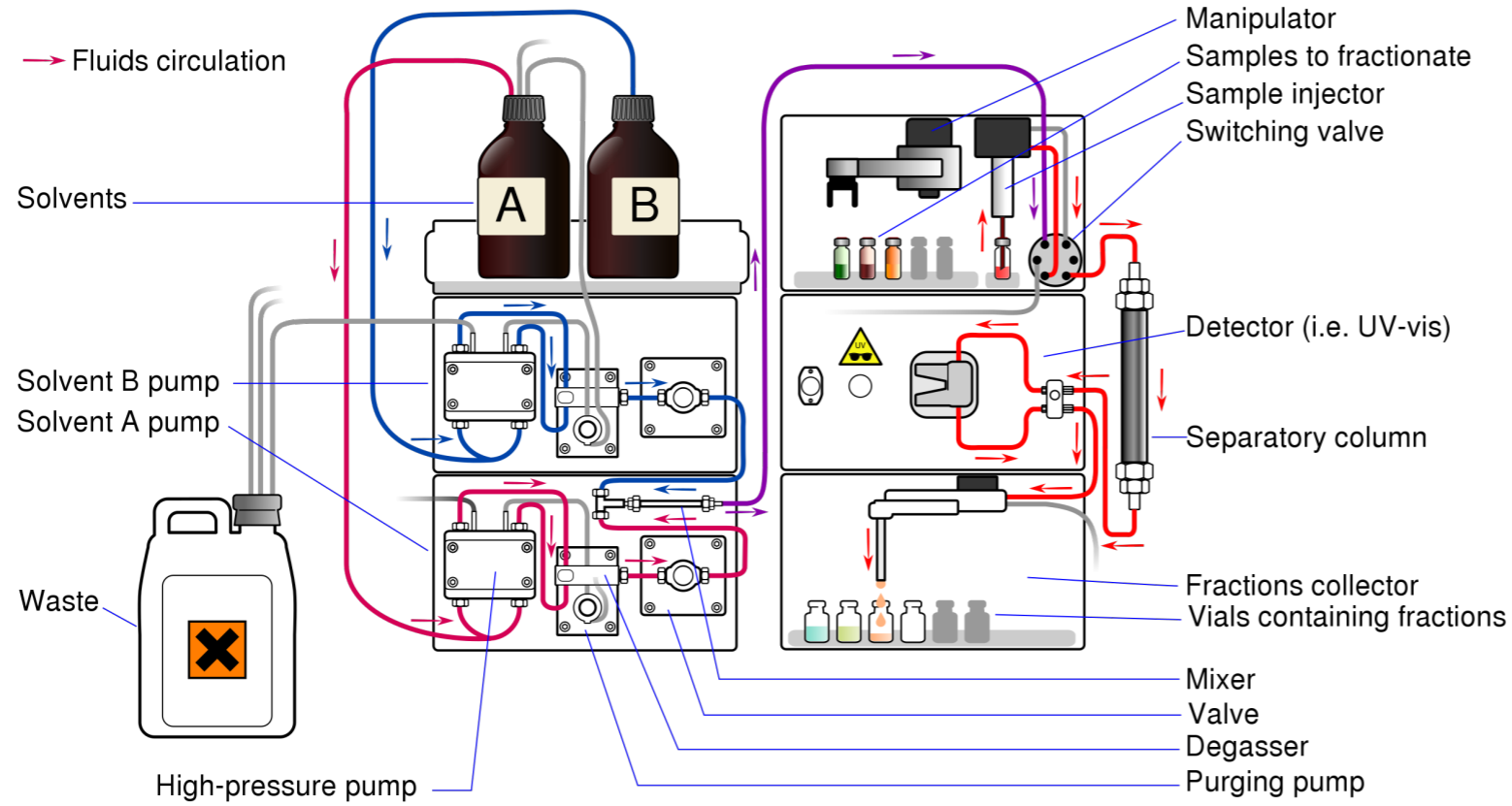
6x valves mixer / gradient generator

Additional flow pass valves

4x NEMA17 drivers



Anatomy of protein purification system



Complex, expensive machinery
made simple

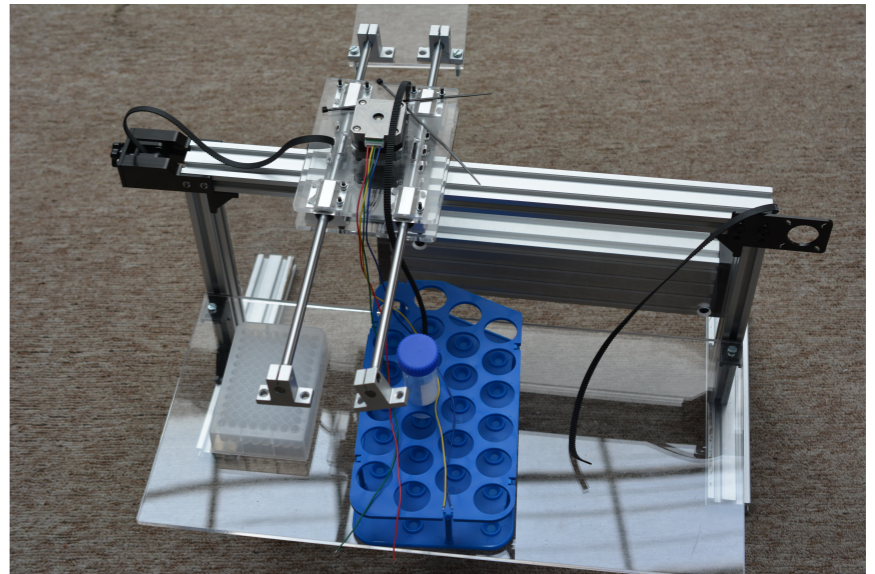


Commercial options



\$\$\$\$\$\$, around 20,000 USDlls or more...

Open Source Proteopresso



\$\$, Bit more than 1,000 USDlls or less...

VS

Proteopresso features (A little bit of a “Frankenstein”... in progress)

SCALABLE

Position selector valves array : 15 positions, 2 solvent mixer/ sample input, made with a simple disposable IV's valves array and servo driven selector.

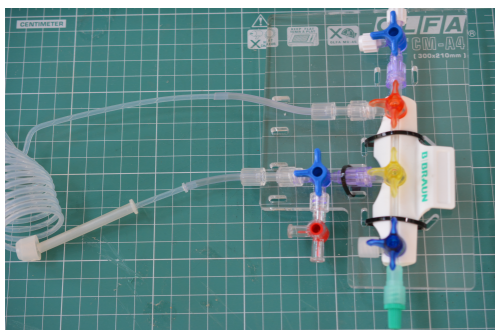
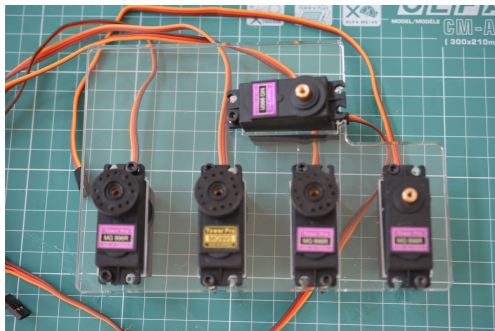
Heavy-duty Fraction collector : Adapted for micro plates and tubes up to 50ml (falcon tubes). Would be enhanced into a liquid handling robot (pipetting) or cells culture “3D printer”. Could fit most commercial pipettes, no need for expensive adaptors. It will incorporate a dual (Vis/IR) camera guided “Z” axis for repetitive, delicate, precision sampling, seeding, culturing or small objects manipulation.

Dedicated UV spectrophotometric cell detector : For a quick protein quantitation, made on a CNC or laser cut micro-fluidic cell integrated with a graphic plotter software.

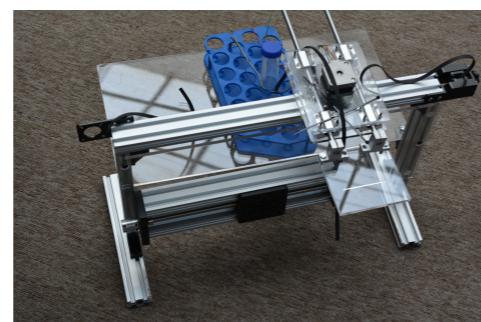
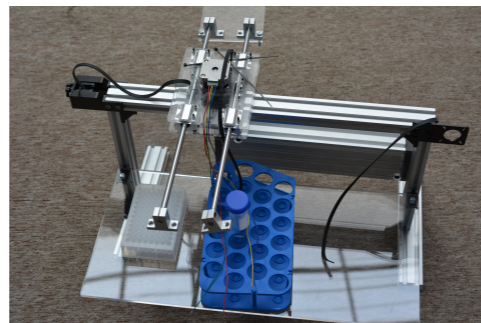
Syringe pump extruder and mixer/ gradient generator : Multi-volume adaptor for reusable glass or disposable plastic syringes. Incorporated pressure sensor will feedback chromatographic columns within functional range for sustaining an effective mobile phase flow.

Friendly graphical interface : Simple, intuitive, EASY control on a “touch screen” app or through mobile devices and PCs.

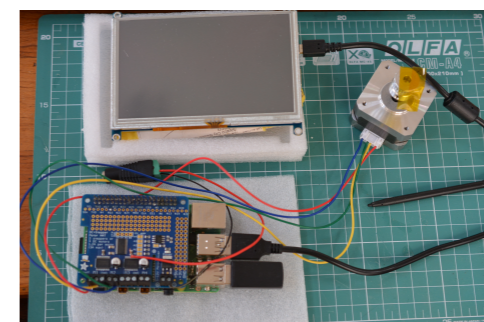
Servos valves array
(mixer and gradient)



Fraction collector /syringe pump



Cell flows (Vis/UV)



Touchscreen GUI

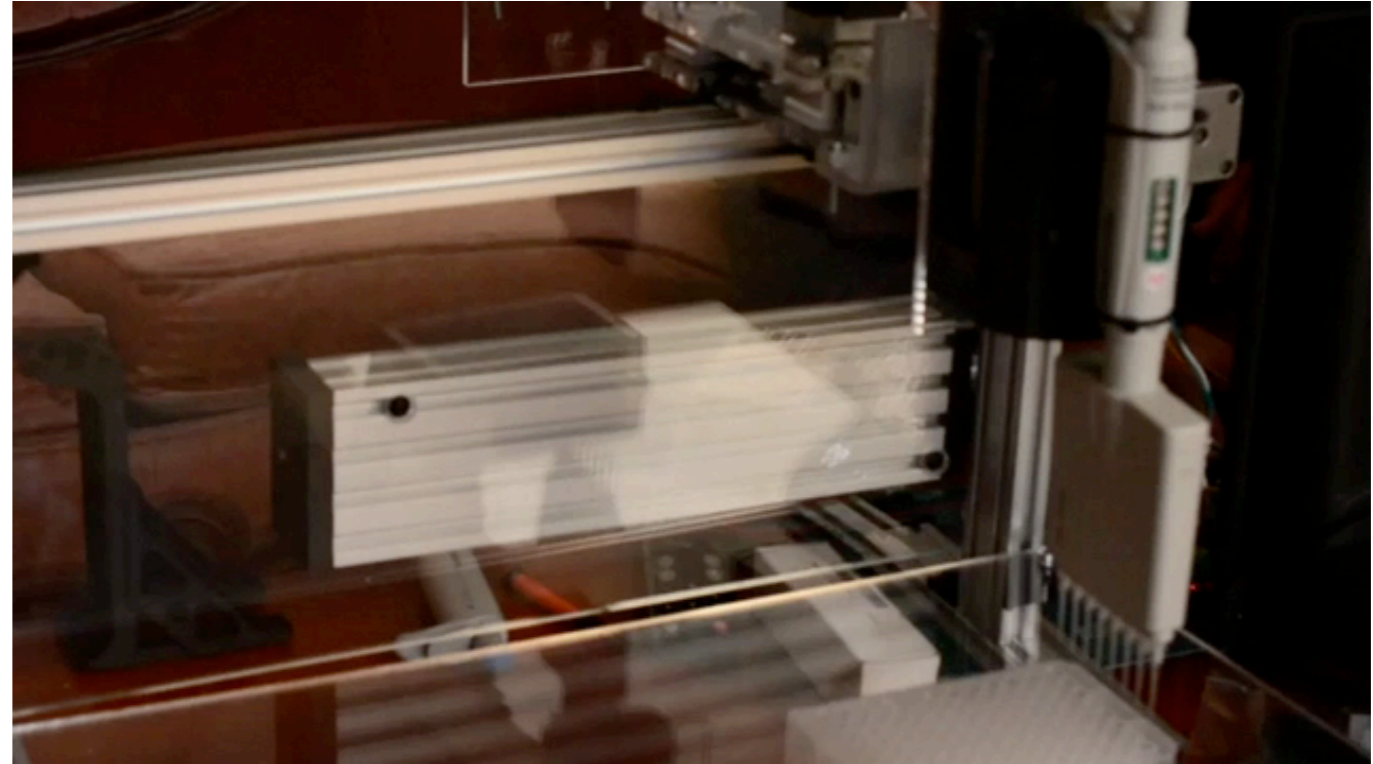


Phase 2

Test



Bioreactor in operation



Proteopresso fraction collector / liquid handling pipettor
(2x speed)

Ni-NTA purification DNA pol Pfu Sso7d



Pfu sso7d 6xHis

HiTrap NiNTA GE

SDS-PAGE 12%

Future features

Proteopresso “a la carte” : User enabled and integrated online repository with protocols for diverse type of purification techniques. Integration with a dedicated software for “Select and run” unattended automation (**IN PROGRESS**)

Dedicated PCB : All mechanical and electronics integration into a single Open source motherboard. (**COMPLETED**)

Proteomics and genomics: Heated shaker in fraction collector for refolding experiments; printing head for nucleotides and proteins microarrays (Mid to late 2022)

Computer assisted Object recognition for manipulation of tissues, cultures and seeds. (**IN PROGRESS** Collab. SYNMIKRO-Marburg, Germany)

Light inducible OPEN plasmids : Over expression using Silica or cellulose tags (**IN PROGRESS**)

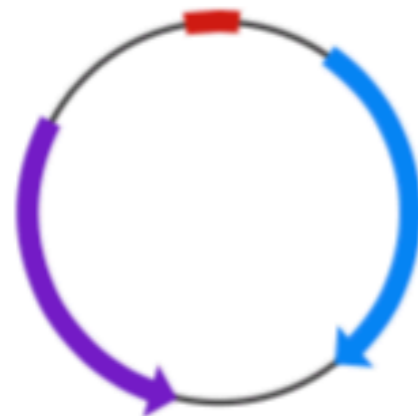
Mice antibodies against currently over expressed proteins for further analysis e.g. Wester-blot (**IN PROGRESS-early 2022**)

Two flavours: Proteopresso “Titan” (50cmx45cmx75cm) for high throughput applications and Proteopresso “Pico” (10cmx25cmx15cm) for the field (**IN PROGRESS**).

Suite of new
light inducible vectors with diverse functional tags and reporters (Early 2022)

Light inducible plasmid
and 6xHis binding domain

Bioreactor Project



First generation

pDawn-Pfu sso7d His_{6x}

Light inducible plasmid
and silica binding domain

Proteopresso Project

His6x to Car-9 substitution



Second
generation

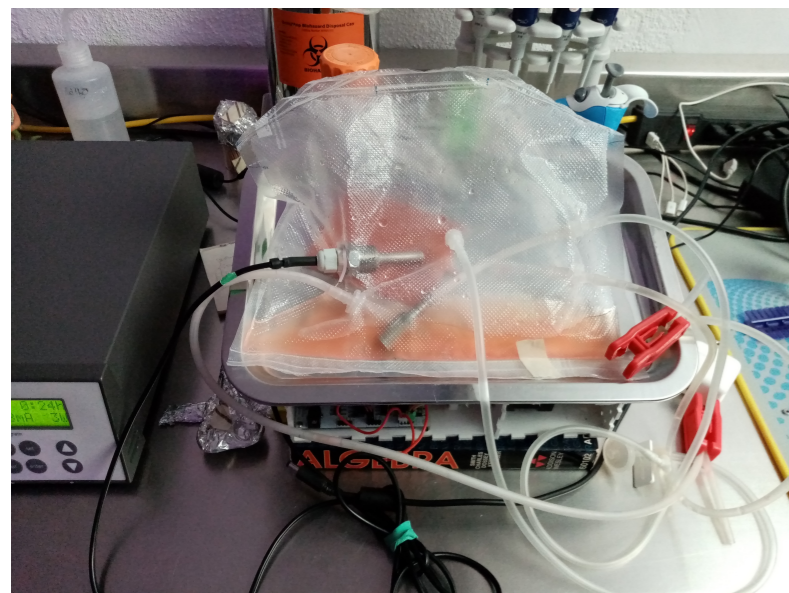
pDawn-Pfu sso7d Car9

Synergy

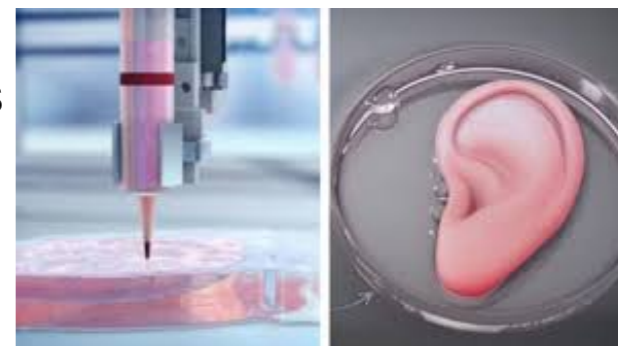
Bioreactor + Proteopresso

Long term applications of Bioprocessing automation

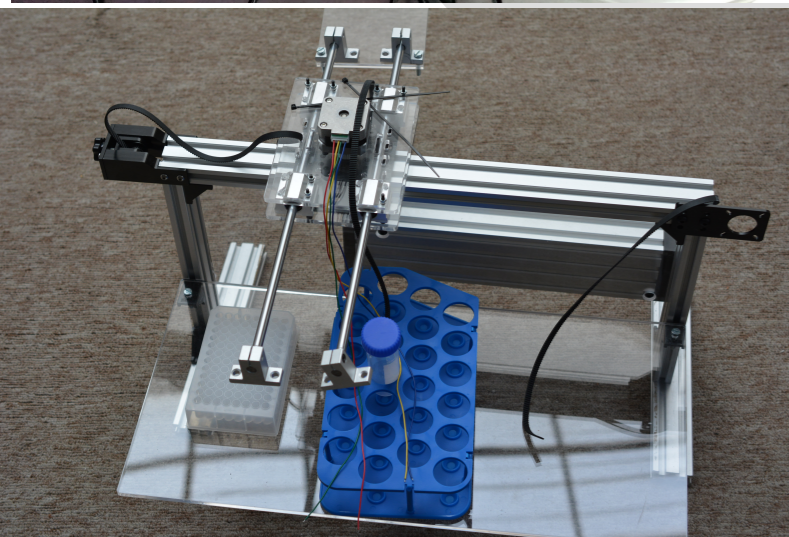
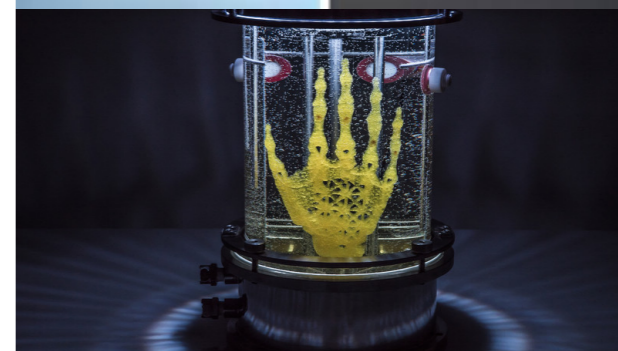
NEXT STEPS



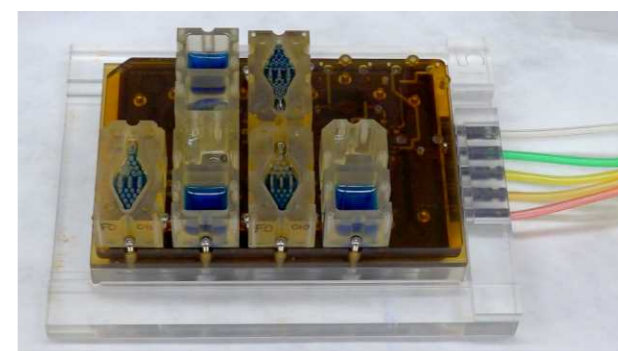
Biofabrication, 3D printing of organs



Biosynthesis of biocompatible scaffolds
(biopolymers, bioplastics, etc)



Organoids

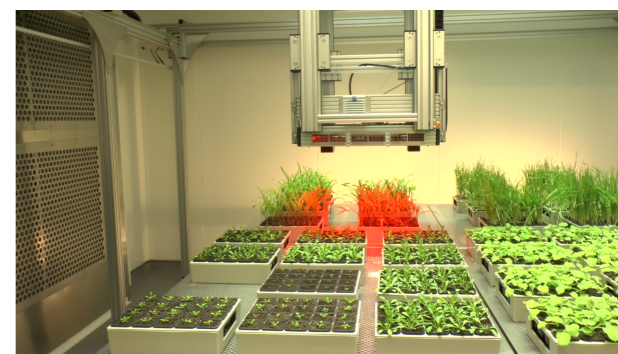


Synergic duo:

Bioreactor = Facilitator,

Automated Chromatography (Proteopresso) = accelerator

Automated
Crop Phenotyping



SUMMARY

- Three new strains controlled by an optogenetic switch that synthesize SARS Cov2 detection reagents. (2 DNAPol, 1 Reverse transcriptase)
- Several versions of the rocker, one 3D printed and one laser cut, and one CNC prototypes. (1 liter vol. media)
- Several dedicated PCB capable of integrating multiple sensors and actuating heat, rocking, pumps and LED lights.
- Basic software to remotely control operating functions and adjustment of multiple variables (temperature, pH, rocking, optical density and several peristaltic pumps).
- Tested temperature control unit
- Tested pH control unit
- Tested growth flow cell for measuring optical density (uncalibrated)
- Tested fraction collector and syringe pump for chromatography system

IN PROGRESS

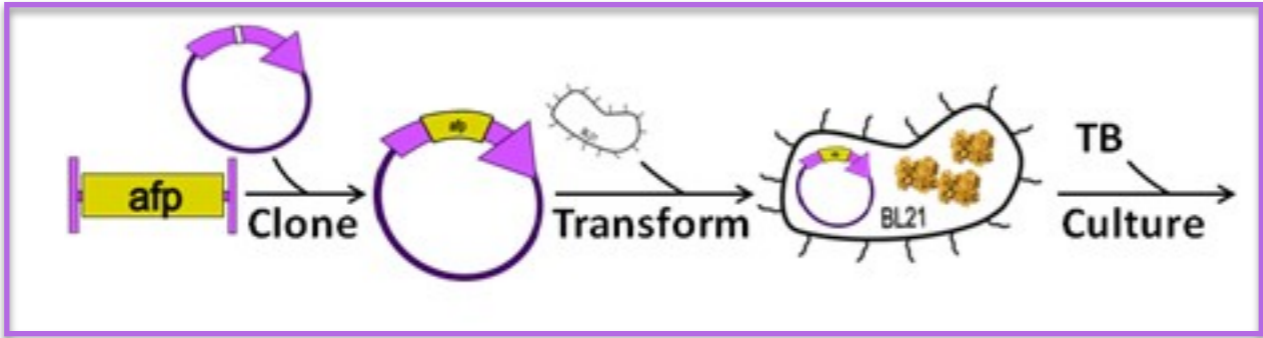
- UV/OD flow Cells
- Calibration of some sensors
- Finalized Optional sub-projects (Dissolved Oxygen monitoring)
- optimization for Mechanics and enhancement in software (GUI, wireless comms.)

Recombinant proteins for dummies

**1hr Bioprocessing and Chromatography
course...kinda.**

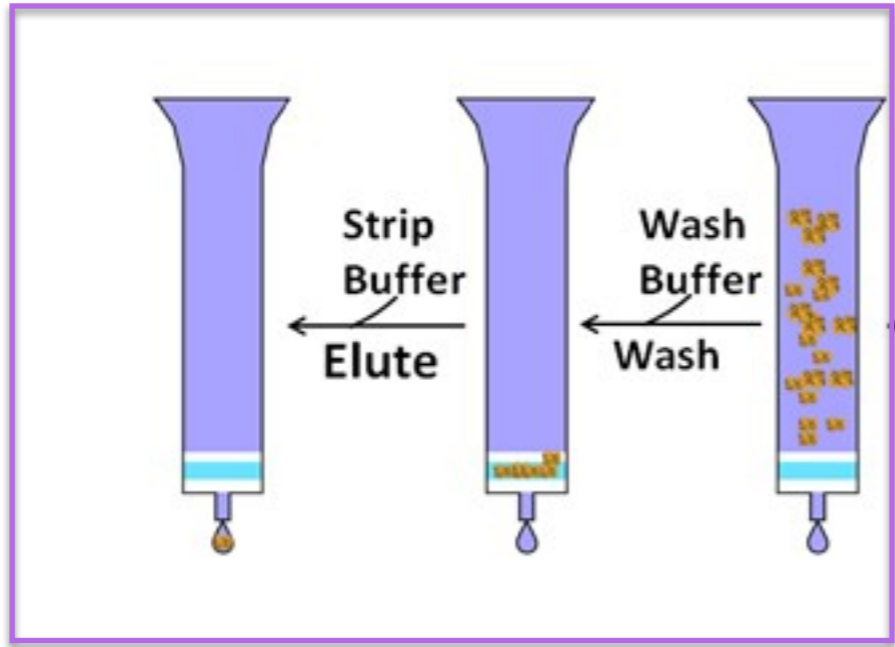
GENERAL PROTEIN PURIFICATION PROCESS (Bioprocessing)

UPSTREAM (Preparative steps)



Molecular biology techniques:

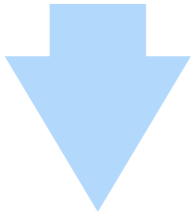
moclo, tags, FP's, affinity tags, terminators, promoters, etc.



Ni-NTA Agarose, Sepharose, gel filtration, Silica, Antibodies affinity, etc.

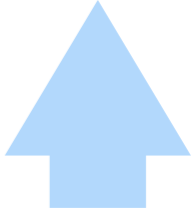
DOWNSTREAM (Recovery steps)

Bioreactor



EASY,
AFFORDABLE,
AUTOMATION

Means no coding, no messy cloning, no clumsy purification, no carpal tunnel syndrome... well, almost.



Proteopresso
(chromatography)

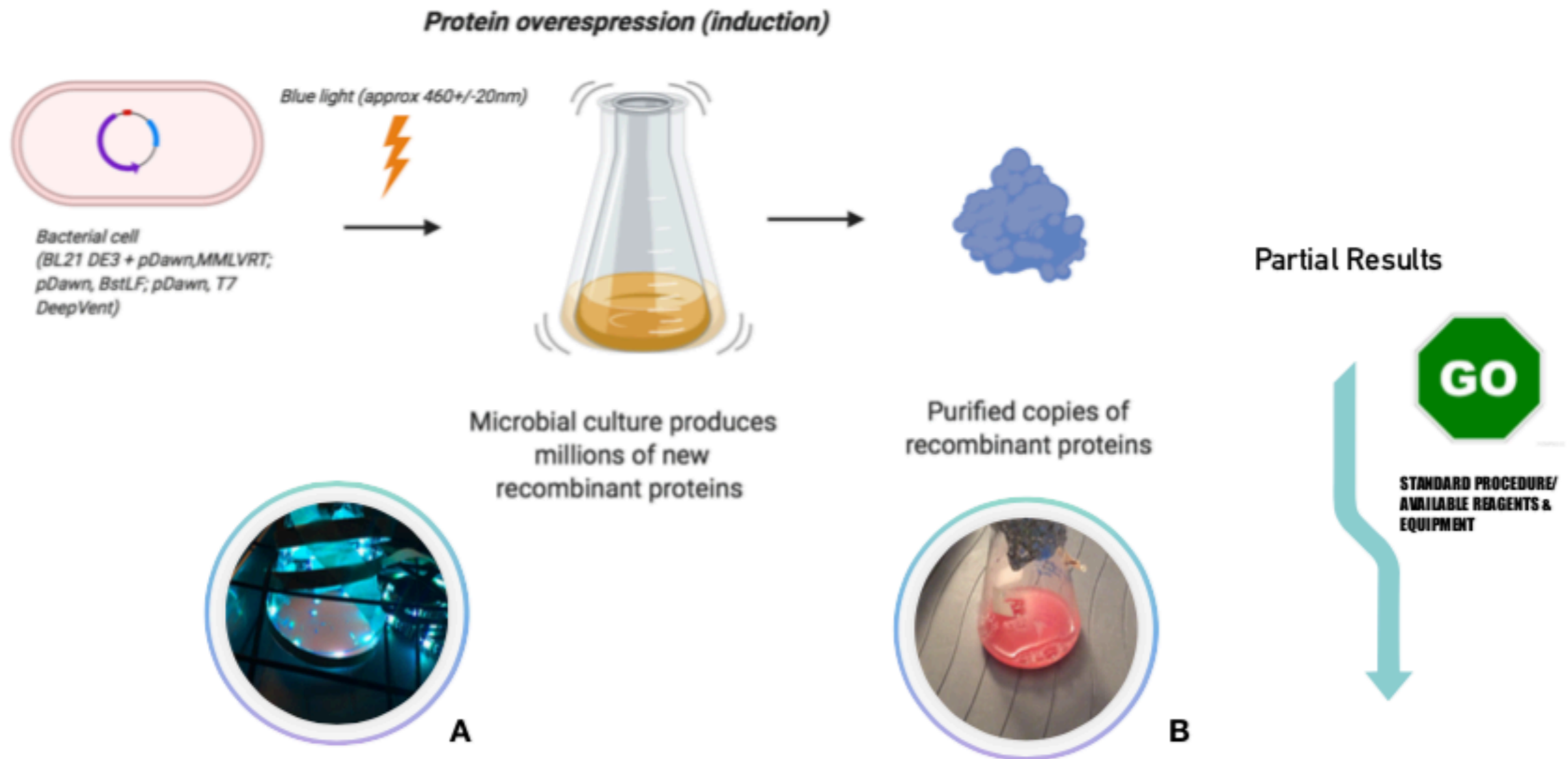
Q: Why do you need automated chromatography?

A: TOO MANY VARIABLES

growth cycle, antibiotic selection, cell culture monitoring, induction time, cell culture synchronization, lysis method, buffers composition, pH, salinity, temperature, oxidation-reduction potential, osmolarity, buffers strength, mobile phase speed, stationary phase selection, protein degradation, protein misfolding, protein aggregation, inclusion bodies...etc.

UPSTREAM

1: Reliable expression system (Bacterial strain, affinity tag, reporter, etc.)



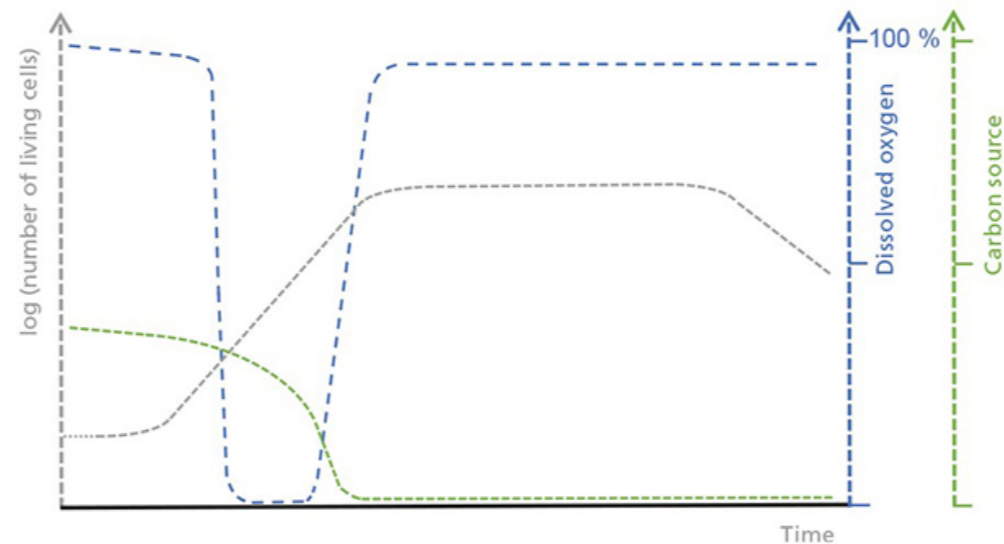
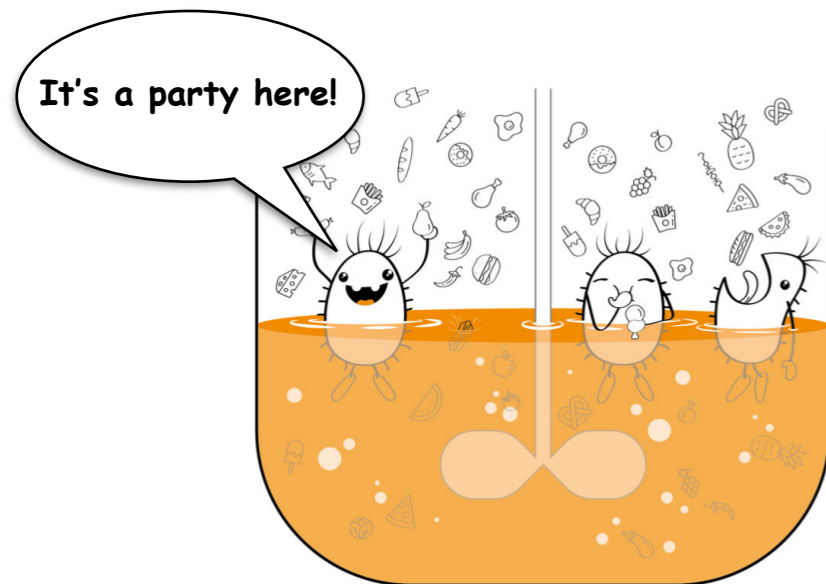
(A) 50ml LB culture inoculated with BL21(DE3);pDawn RFP, was induced by exposing it continuously to a home electronics cyan light LED array for 16hrs, at 220rpm RT. (B) After induction, Red fluorescent protein (reporter protein) can be seen by naked eye.

Where to start?

UPSTREAM

1: WHAT KIND OF CELLS YOU WANT TO GROW?: KNOW YOUR BATCHES!

Batch: A “vicinity of cells”, within a “neighbourhood” or growth vessel.



Which variables are critical that define the performance of a batch?:

Interdependent correlation

LIVING CELLS CONCENTRATION (growth), the demographics of your “bugs”

DISSOLVED GASES: From Breeze to “Toxygen”,

CARBON SOURCES : Feed them to live or live to feast and gorge sinfully

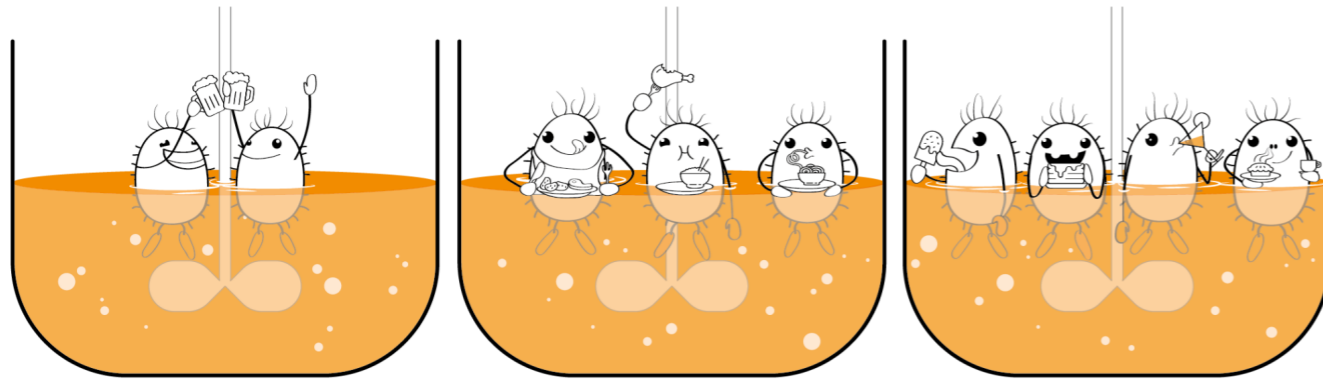
A Bioreactor is like a “chemical sim-city”

Batch Regimes

UPSTREAM

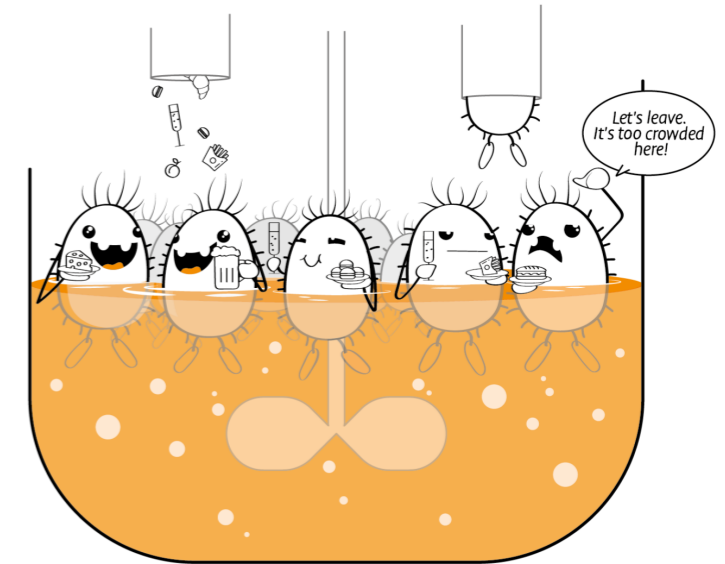
1: HOW DO YOU "FARM" YOUR CELLS?

Fed-Batch:

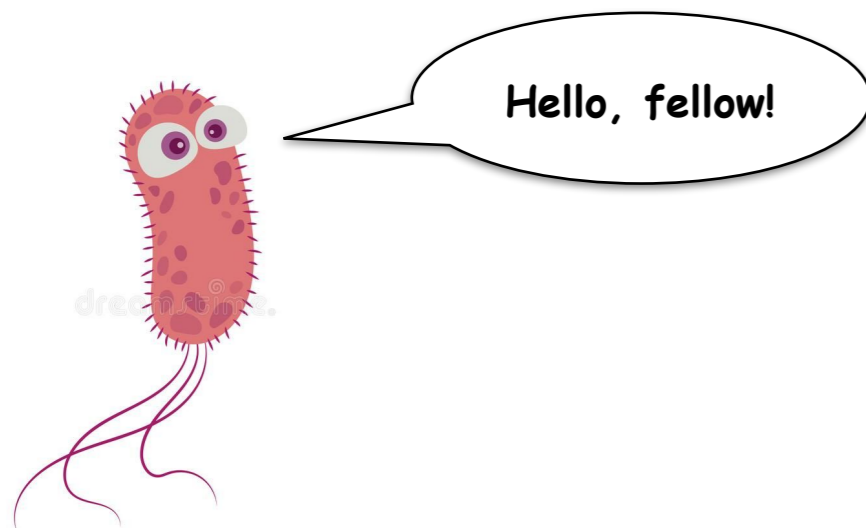


Sequential addition of nutrients (carbon source) activation by metabolic activation /repression

Continuous Batch:



Recirculation of fresh media

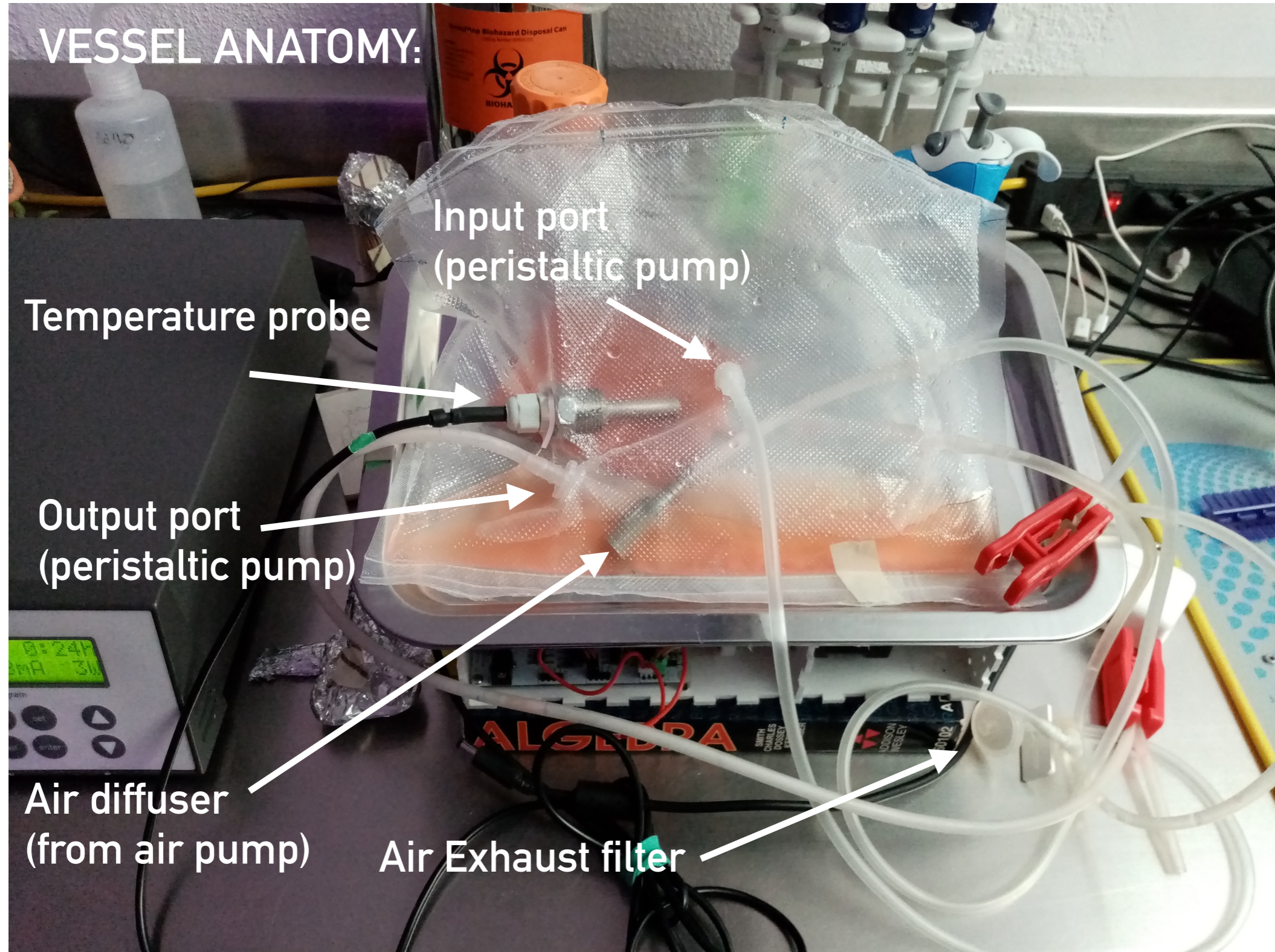


E.coli BL21



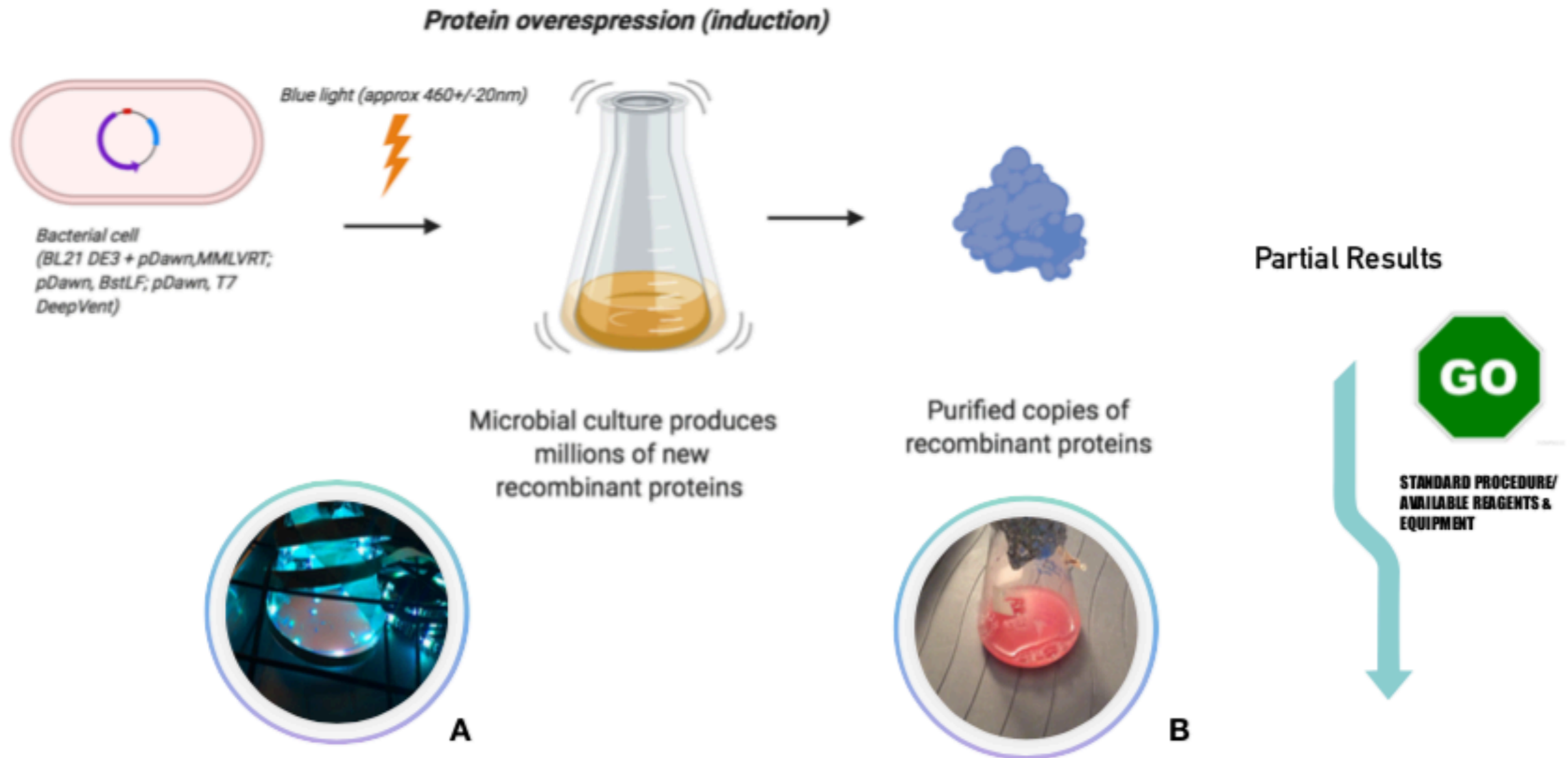
UPSTREAM

2: GROWTH VESSEL FEATURES: “The landscape of your Batch”



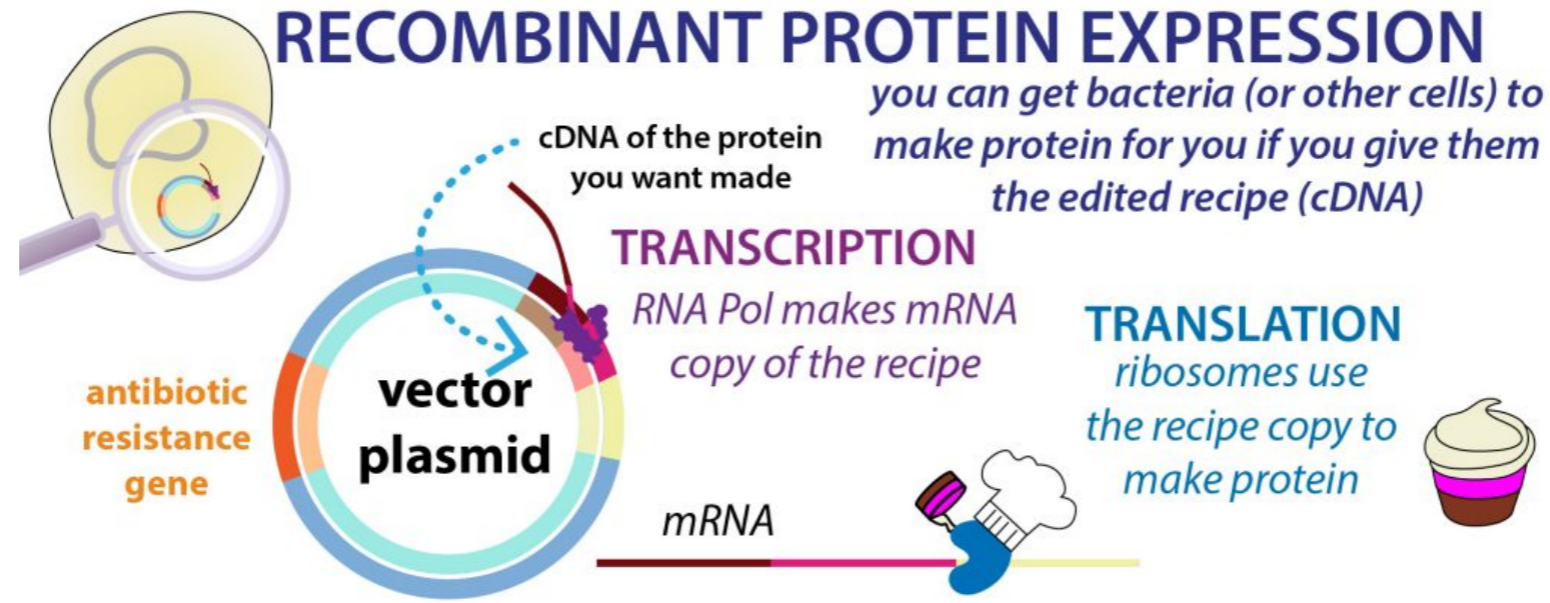
UPSTREAM

1: Reliable expression system (Bacterial strain, affinity tag, reporter, etc.)



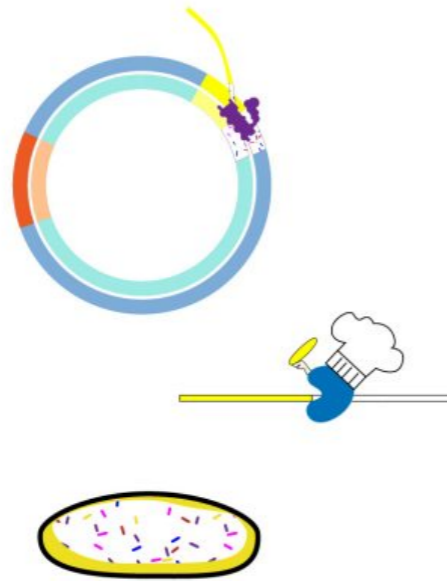
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RECOMBINANT PROTEIN EXPRESSION

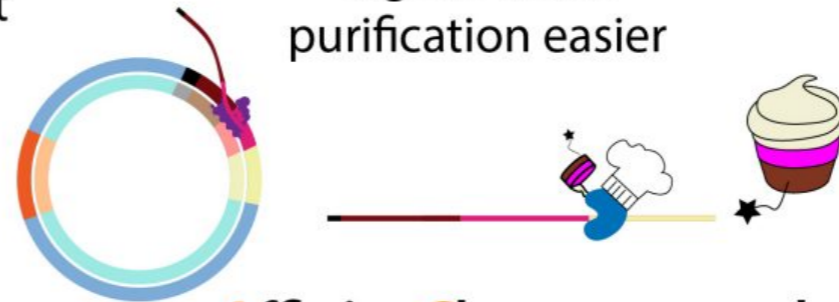


you can get bacteria (or other cells) to make protein for you if you give them the edited recipe (cDNA)

You can stick in cDNA from different genes to get different proteins

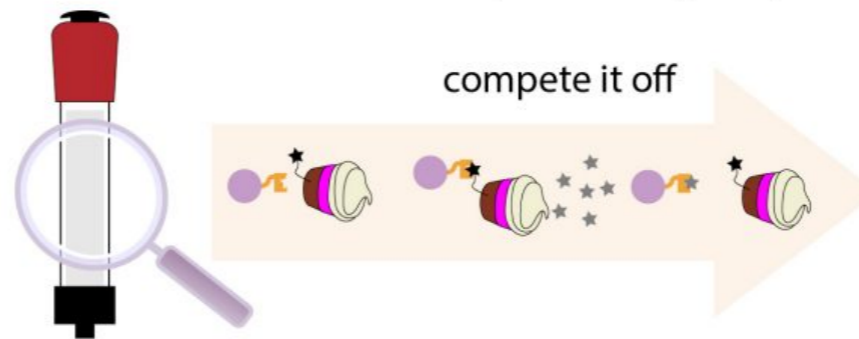


and you can add affinity tags to make purification easier



Affinity Chromatography

resin binds a feature specific to your protein



DOWNSTREAM

2: Reliable recovery system

Affinity Chromatography

separate proteins based **something specifically special** about them

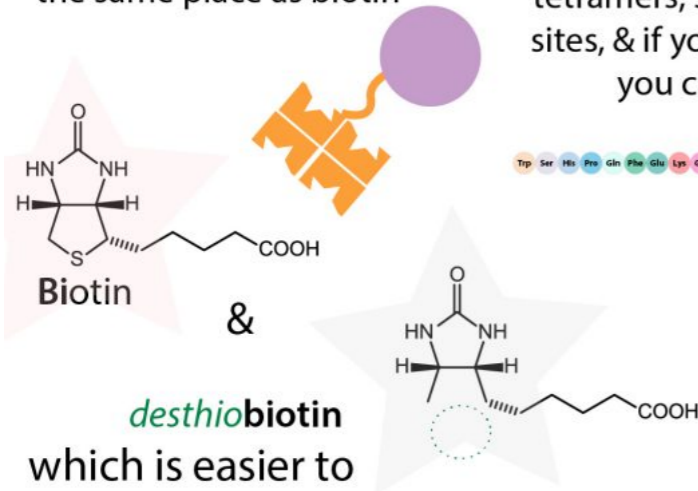


since you're recognizing something specific, it removes most (but not all) contaminants

one example of an affinity tag is a Strep Tag



it binds strep-tactin resin, a streptavidin mimic, in the same place as biotin



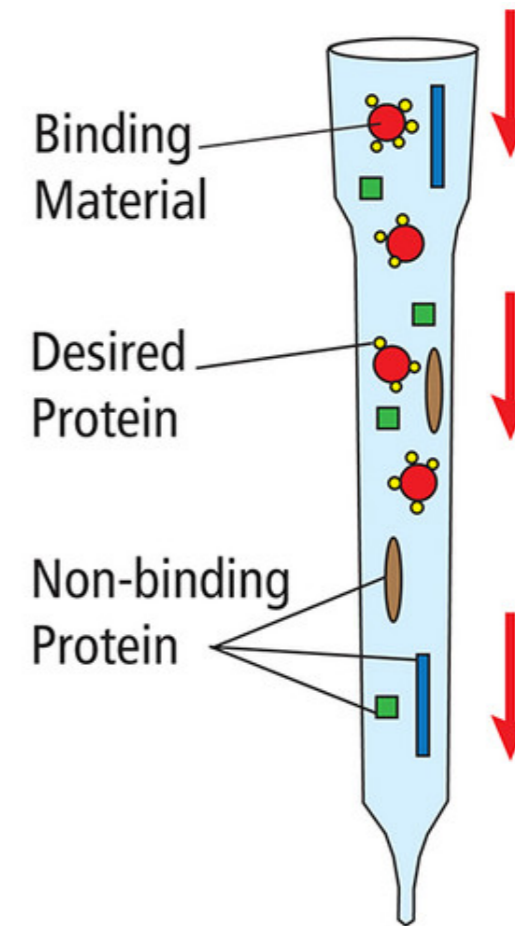
which is easier to displace

so you can use desthiobiotin as a competitor

streptavidin protein (& friends) form tetramers, so 4 there are 4 binding sites, & if you have a Twin strep tag you can bind 2 of them



affinity tags are usually designed so with a protease recognition sequence between the tag & the protein so you can remove it once you've used it

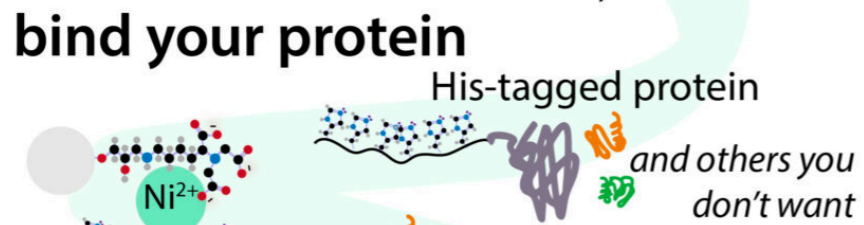
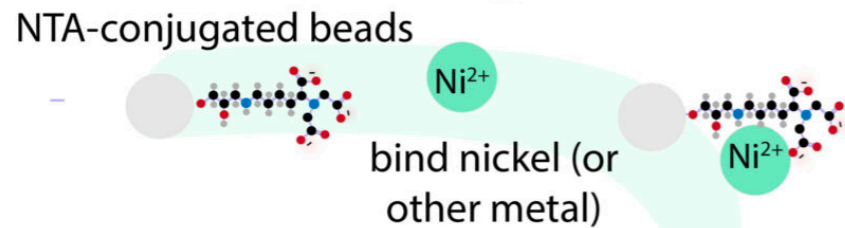


AFFINITY CHROMATOGRAPHY (PRACTICAL) PRINCIPLES

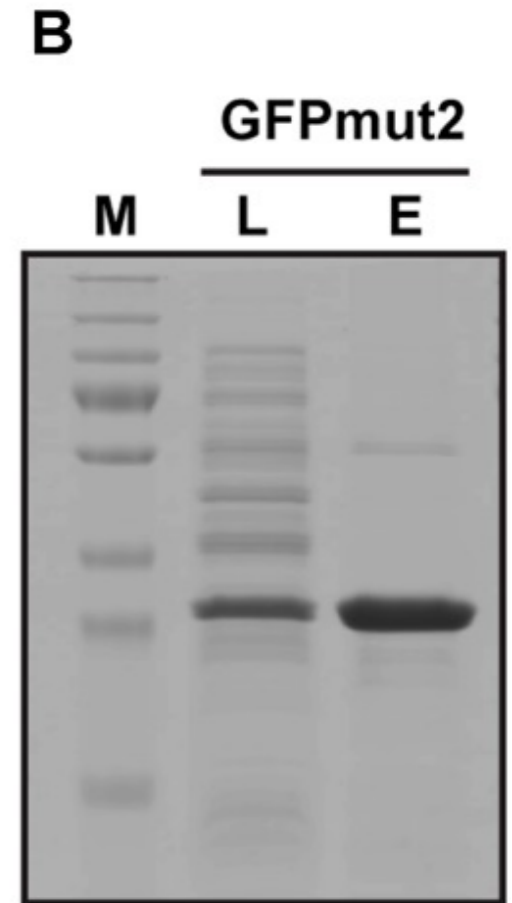
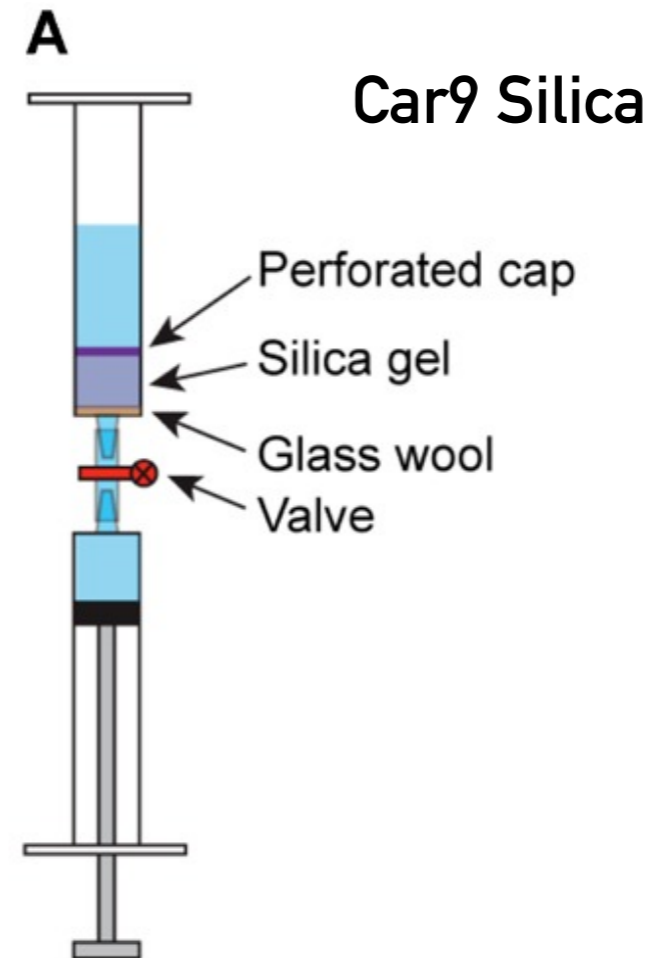
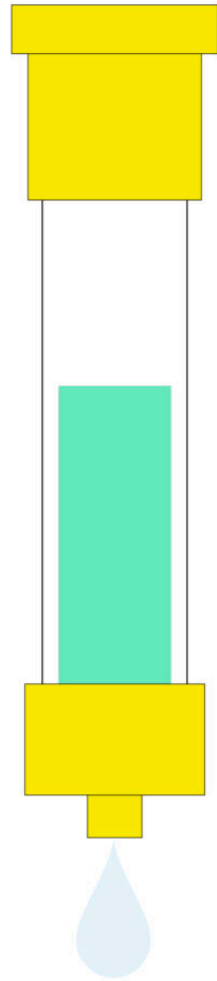
METAL (\$\$\$\$\$)

SILICA (\$)

His-tag purification "charge" the resin



push it off
imidazole
(competitor)



Briana Bibel, 2020 (The Bumbling Biochemist, Blog)

Coyle and Baneyx, 2014

AFFINITY CHROMATOGRAPHY (MANUAL) DEMO

(A)



(B)



(C)



Thank you!

<http://specyal.com/diybio/bioreactor.html>

GLYXON

+



David J. Castillo

Daniel Zepeda (logistics)

Giulio Zappa (Università statale di Milano, Italy)

Adrian Filips

Alexander (Sasha) Yakovlev

Vladyslav Boyko

Nicolas Crudele

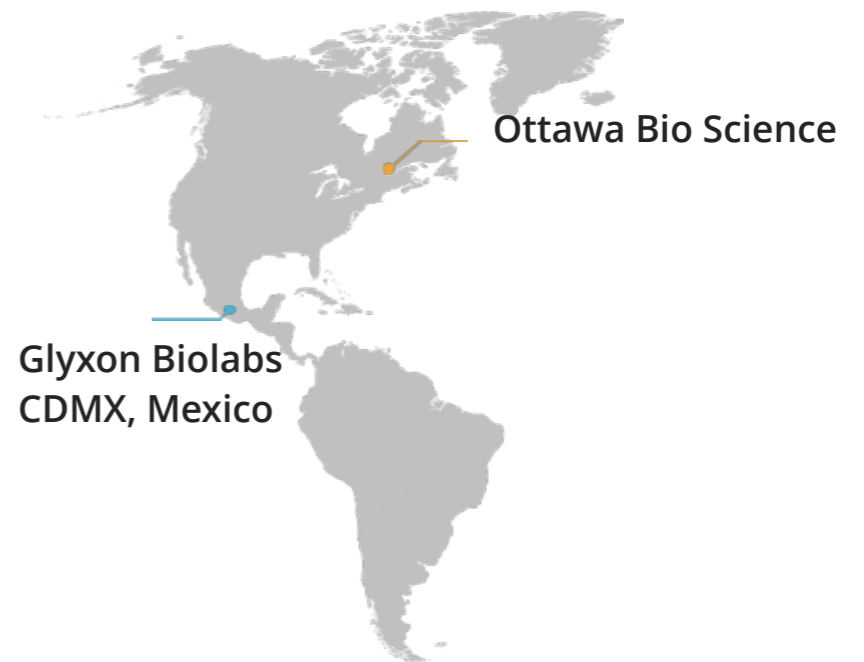
Adrian Jones

Therese Schachner

Charlotte Vanhoutte

and many more volunteers...

Special acknowledgment to :



Jenny Molloy Lab

PLEASE JOIN!