

# **Purification of GST-tagged Proteins**

## **User manual**

Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B

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# 1 Contents and storage

Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B		
Cat. No.	745500.10	745500.100
Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B, Volume of <u>settled</u> beaded agarose (bed volume)	10 ml	100 ml
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Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B is supplied as a 75% (v/v) aqueous suspension containing 20% ethanol to inhibit bacterial growth.

## Shipping and storage of Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B:



The product is shipped at ambient temperature.

Upon receipt Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B should be **stored at 4°C** and is stable up to 3 years. Do not freeze.

## 2 Introduction

Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B is an affinity chromatography medium which enables fast single step purification of glutathione-S-transferase (GST) fusion proteins and other glutathione-binding proteins. Purification of fusion proteins from a whole cell lysate is based on the strong affinity of the GST moiety for glutathione, which is immobilized on agarose beads. GST-tagged proteins are eluted under mild, non-denaturing, conditions using neutral-pH buffers containing free glutathione. The purification process preserves protein antigenicity and functionality. If removal of the GST-tag is necessary, fusion proteins may be cleaved using a site-specific protease.

Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B can be used in batch binding studies and/or packed bed chromatography experiments. Packed columns may be operated by gravity flow or any liquid chromatography system such as FPLC™ system.

## 3 Product description

### 3.1 Specifications

Table 1: Specifications Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B	
<b>Application</b>	Batch binding Gravity flow column chromatography MPLC / FPLC™
<b>Form</b>	75% (v/v) aqueous suspension containing 20% ethanol 1 ml of settled agarose beads (1 ml bed volume) corresponds to 1.333 ml of original 75% suspension
<b>Matrix</b>	4 % beaded agarose
<b>Ligand</b>	Glutathione, linked via sulfur atom
<b>Spacer arm</b>	12 atoms
<b>Bead size</b>	90 µm
<b>Binding capacity<sup>1</sup></b>	> 8 mg recombinant GST/ml settled agarose
<b>Recommended flow rates</b>	<u>1 ml bed volume (column with 6.6 mm inner diameter)</u> Sample loading <sup>2</sup> 0.2-1.0 ml/min Washing and elution 1.0 ml/min  <u>10 ml bed volume (column with 16 mm inner diameter)</u> Sample loading <sup>2</sup> 0.5-5.0 ml/min Washing and elution 5 ml/min
<b>Maximum linear flow rate<sup>3</sup></b>	250 cm/h
<b>Chemical stability</b>	Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B withstands incubation in 0.1 M acetate pH 4, 0.1 M NaOH, 70% ethanol, or 6 M guanidine hydrochloride for 2 hours at room temperature without significant loss of protein yield.
<b>Storage temperature</b>	4-8 °C
<b>Storage solution</b>	20% ethanol
<b>Note</b>	Do not autoclave the gel.

<sup>1</sup> Binding capacity will vary for each GST-tagged protein.

<sup>2</sup> Slow flow rates are recommended for the loading step to allow maximal binding of the GST-tagged protein.

<sup>3</sup> For converting from linear to volumetric flow rate see section 6.2.

### 3.2 Additional materials required

- PBS (10 mM Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, 1.8 mM KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 2.7 mM KCl, 140 mM NaCl, pH 7.3)
- Elution Buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, 10 mM glutathione, pH 8)
- Lysozyme (required for cell extract preparation, see section 5.2)
- Appropriate centrifuge tubes, collecting tubes
- Appropriate centrifuge
- Spin columns or chromatography columns

### 3.3 Culture size

The yield of GST-tagged protein depends on various parameters, such as nature of the fusion protein, expression host, culture conditions, etc. However, some recommendations on protein load and culture size can be given (see Figure 1). Culture volume requirements are based on the following assumptions:

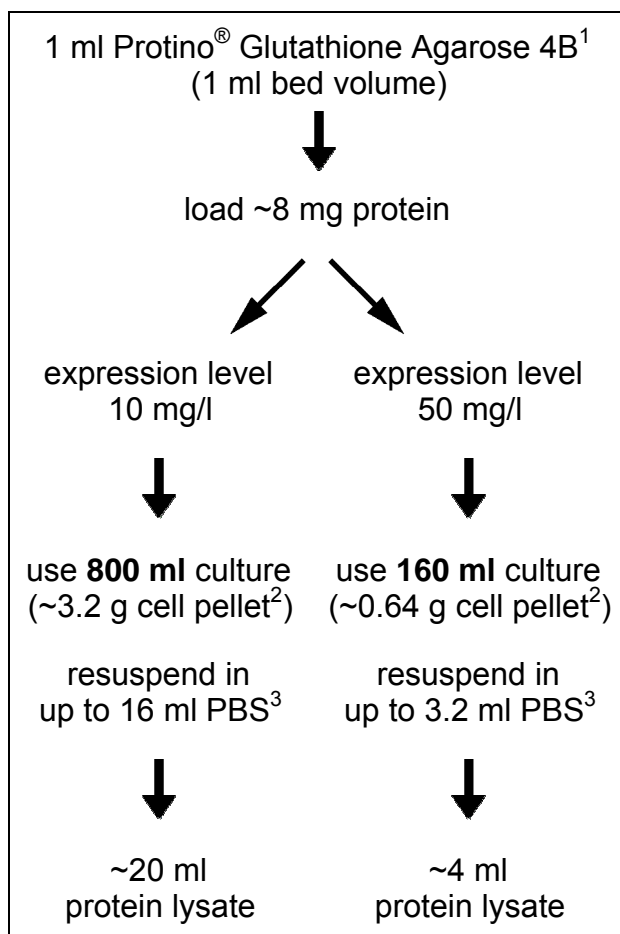
Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B has a binding capacity of 8 mg of recombinant GST per ml of settled agarose.

Typically, the expression level of GST-tagged proteins is high ranging from 10 to 50 mg/liter of *E. coli* culture.

As a starting point we recommend to use the cell lysate from a 160-800 ml *E. coli* culture per 1 ml of settled Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B.

Since Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B is supplied as 75% (v/v) suspension, 1 ml of settled agarose beads (1 ml bed volume) corresponds to 1.333 ml of original 75% suspension.

Figure 1. Required culture volumes for 1 ml of settled Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> 1 ml bed volume corresponds to 1.333 ml of 75% (v/v) Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B suspension.

<sup>2</sup> On average, 250 ml of culture will produce approximately 1 g of pelleted, wet cells.

<sup>3</sup> 1 g cells may be lysed in 2-5 ml PBS, see section 6.2.

## 4 Safety instructions – risk and safety phrases

The following components of the Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B kits contain hazardous contents.

Component	Hazard Contents		Risk Phrases	Safety Phrases
Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B suspension*	Ethanol 20%	Flammable	R 10	

### Risk Phrases

R 10 Flammable

\* Label not necessary, if quantity below 125 g or ml (according to 67/548/EEC Art. 25, 1999/45/EC Art. 12 and German GefStoffV § 42 and TRGS 200 7.1)

## 5 Protocols

### 5.1 Preparation of buffers

Prepare the following working solutions.

For the preparation of cell lysates **5 ml of PBS** per g of *E. coli* pellet wet mass are required.

**Batch, gravity-flow, spin column applications:**

Per 1 ml of settled Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B approximately **50 ml of PBS** and **5 ml of Elution buffer** are required for the purification procedure.

**FPLC<sup>™</sup> applications (1 ml bed volume):**

10 ml of PBS are required to equilibrate the column, 10 ml of PBS are required to wash the column after sample application. 10 ml of Elution Buffer are required for the elution step.

Note that additional volumes of PBS and Elution buffer must be prepared to flush lines and pumps depending on the chromatographic system: E.g. prepare approximately **250 ml of PBS** and **150 ml of Elution buffer**.

Use high-purity chemicals and water for preparing the buffers. For best results, filter buffers through a 0.45 µm filter before use.

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**PBS (recipe for 1 liter):**

10 mM Na <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub>	1.78 g Na <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub> x 2 H <sub>2</sub> O (M <sub>r</sub> = 156.01 g/mol)
1.8 mM KH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	0.245 g KH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (M <sub>r</sub> = 136.09 g/mol)
2.7 mM KCl	0.201 g KCl (M <sub>r</sub> = 74.55 g/mol)
140 mM NaCl	8.182 g NaCl (M <sub>r</sub> = 58.44 g/mol)

Adjust pH to 7.3

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**Elution buffer (recipe for 1 liter):**

50 mM Tris base	6.06 g Tris base (M <sub>r</sub> = 121.14 g/mol)
10 mM glutathione	3.07 g glutathione (M <sub>r</sub> = 307.3 g/mol)

Adjust pH to 8.0

Prepare fresh daily. Store at 4°C until needed.

## 5.2 Preparation of cleared *E. coli* lysates

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### Cultivate and harvest cells

- As a starting point we recommend to prepare 160-800 ml *E. coli* expression culture for the purification of 8 mg of GST-tagged protein using 1 ml of settled Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B (see section 3.3).
  - Harvest cells from an *E. coli* expression culture by centrifugation at 4,500 - 6,000 x g for 15 min at 4°C. Remove supernatant.
  - Cell pellets may be stored at -20°C or -80°C until needed.
- 

### Resuspend bacteria cells

- Thaw the cell pellet from an *E. coli* expression culture on ice (if frozen).
  - Resuspend 1 g of pelleted, wet cells in 2-5 ml PBS. Pipette up and down, or stir until complete resuspension without visible cell aggregates. Perform this step on ice.
- 

### Lyse cells

- Add lysozyme to a final concentration of 1 mg/ml.
  - Stir the solution on ice for 30 min.
  - Sonicate the suspension on ice according to the instructions provided by the manufacturer (e.g. use 10 x 15 s bursts with a 15 s cooling period between each burst).
  - Carefully check samples' appearance after sonication. If the lysate is still viscous from incomplete fragmentation of DNA, add 5 µg/ml DNase I and stir on ice for 15 min.
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### Clarify lysate

- Centrifuge the crude lysate at 10,000 x g for 30 min at 4°C to remove cellular debris.
  - Carefully transfer the supernatant to a clean tube without disturbing the pellet. If the supernatant is not clear, centrifuge a second time or filter through a 0.45 µm membrane (e.g. cellulose acetate).
  - Store supernatant on ice.
- 

- Proceed to section  
5.3 (Batch purification of GST-tagged proteins),  
5.4 (Batch/gravity-flow purification of GST-tagged proteins),  
5.5 (Spin column purification of GST-tagged proteins), or  
5.6 (FPLC™ purification of GST-tagged proteins).
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### 5.3 Batch purification of GST-tagged proteins

Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B is supplied as 75% suspension. For batch purification of GST-tagged proteins the original 75% suspension can be used directly after performing the necessary equilibration steps (refer to step 1a). Alternatively, a 50% pre-equilibrated working suspension can be produced (refer to step 1b) that may be used directly or may be stored at 4°C for up to 1 month and used if required (refer to step 1c).

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#### 1a Equilibration (start with the 75% original suspension)

- Determine the bed volume of Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B required for your application (see section 3.3).
- Resuspend Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B by mixing thoroughly to achieve a homogeneous suspension.
- Immediately transfer sufficient suspension to an appropriate tube. Pipette 1.333 ml of the original 75% suspension per ml of bed volume required.
- Sediment the gel by centrifugation at 500 x g for 2-5 minutes. Carefully decant the supernatant (storage solution) and discard it.
- Add 10 bed volumes of PBS to equilibrate the gel. Invert to mix.
- Sediment the gel by centrifugation at 500 x g for 2-5 minutes. Carefully decant the supernatant and discard it.
- Proceed to step 2.

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#### 1b Preparation of a 50% pre-equilibrated suspension (optional)

Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B is supplied as 75% suspension. It may be advantageous to prepare and store pre-equilibrated Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B suspension, e.g. when several preparations are performed in parallel or when daily experiments are planned. The following steps produce a 50% suspension of pre-equilibrated Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B which may be used directly or may be stored at 4°C for up to 1 month and used if required (refer to section 1c).

- Determine the bed volume of Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B required for your application (see section 3.3).
- Resuspend Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B by mixing thoroughly to achieve a homogeneous suspension.
- Immediately transfer sufficient suspension to an appropriate tube. Pipette 1.333 ml of the original 75% suspension per ml of bed volume required.
- Sediment the gel by centrifugation at 500 x g for 2-5 minutes. Carefully decant the supernatant (storage solution) and discard it.
- Add 10 bed volumes of PBS to equilibrate the gel. Invert to mix.
- Sediment the gel by centrifugation at 500 x g for 2-5 minutes. Carefully decant the supernatant and discard it.

- Add 1 bed volume of PBS. Invert to mix. This results in a 50% suspension of Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B, which may be used directly or may be stored at 4°C for up to 1 month.
- If the suspension is used directly proceed to step 1c.

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**1c Start with 50% pre-equilibrated suspension**

- Prepare 50% pre-equilibrated suspension according to section 1b.
- Determine the bed volume of Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B required for your application (see section 3.3).
- Resuspend Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B by mixing thoroughly to achieve a homogeneous suspension.
- Immediately transfer sufficient suspension to an appropriate tube. Pipette 2 ml of the 50% pre-equilibrated suspension per ml of bed volume required.
- Proceed to step 2.

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**2 Batch binding**

- Add the clarified *E. coli* lysate to the equilibrated gel.
- Mix the suspension gently for 30 min at room temperature.
- Sediment the gel by centrifugation at 500 x g for 2-5 minutes. Carefully decant the supernatant and discard it.

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**3 Washing**

- Wash the gel by adding 10 bed volumes of PBS. Invert to mix.
- Sediment the gel by centrifugation at 500 x g for 2-5 minutes. Carefully decant the supernatant and discard it.
- Repeat the washing step twice (total wash 3 x 10 bed volumes of PBS).

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**4 Elution**

- Add 1 bed volume of Elution buffer to the sedimented gel.
- Mix the suspension gently for 10 min at room temperature to liberate the GST-tagged protein from the gel.
- Sediment the gel by centrifugation at 500 x g for 2-5 minutes. Carefully decant or pipette the supernatant in a new tube and store on ice.
- Repeat the elution step twice. Pool the collected eluates.

*Note: The amount of elution buffer required may vary among fusion proteins. Volumes may have to be increased or additional elution steps may be necessary. Use a Bradford protein assay, SDS-PAGE or measure the absorbance at 280 nm to determine the yield of the eluted GST-tagged protein.*

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## 5.4 Batch/gravity-flow purification of GST-tagged proteins

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### 1 Equilibration

- Determine the bed volume of Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B required for your application (see section 3.3).
- Resuspend Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B by mixing thoroughly to achieve a homogeneous suspension.
- Immediately transfer the determined volume of suspension to an appropriate chromatography column (e.g. Protino<sup>®</sup> Columns 14 ml, 35 ml; see ordering information). Pipette 1.333 ml of the original 75% suspension per ml of bed volume required.
- Allow the column to drain by gravity.
- To equilibrate the gel add 10 bed volumes of PBS. Allow the column to drain by gravity. Avoid disturbing the resin.

### 2 Batch binding

- Close column outlet with cap or Parafilm<sup>®</sup>.
- Add clarified *E. coli* lysate to the gel and close column inlet with cap or Parafilm<sup>®</sup>.
- Mix the suspension gently for 30 min at room temperature.
- Remove bottom and top cap and allow the column to drain by gravity.

### 3 Washing

- To wash the gel add 10 bed volumes of PBS. Allow the column to drain by gravity. Avoid disturbing the resin.
- Repeat the washing step twice (total wash 3x 10 bed volumes of PBS).

### 4 Elution

- Close column outlet with cap and add 1 bed volume of Elution buffer.
- Close column inlet and mix the suspension gently for 10 min at room temperature to liberate the GST-tagged protein from the gel.
- Remove bottom cap and collect the eluate.
- Repeat the elution step twice. Pool the collected eluates.

*Note: The amount of elution buffer required may vary among fusion proteins. Volumes may have to be increased or additional elution steps may be necessary. Use a Bradford protein assay, SDS-PAGE or measure the absorbance at 280 nm to determine the yield of the eluted GST-tagged protein.*

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## 5.5 Spin column purification of GST-tagged proteins

In this exemplary protocol mini-spin columns (Receiver Columns 20  $\mu\text{m}$ , see ordering information, section 6.3) with 50  $\mu\text{l}$  Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B bed volume are used to purify up to 400  $\mu\text{g}$  of GST-tagged protein.

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### 1 Equilibration

- Resuspend Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B by mixing thoroughly to achieve a homogeneous suspension.
- Immediately transfer 67  $\mu\text{l}$  of the original 75% suspension to a Receiver Column placed in a collecting tube (67  $\mu\text{l}$  of the original 75% suspension corresponds to 50  $\mu\text{l}$  of bed volume).
- Centrifuge at 500 x g for 30 seconds.
- To equilibrate the gel add 500  $\mu\text{l}$  of PBS.
- Centrifuge at 500 x g for 30 seconds. Discard flowthrough.

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### 2 Batch binding

- Close column outlet with cap.
- Add up to 700  $\mu\text{l}$  of clarified *E. coli* lysate to the gel and close the lid.
- Mix the suspension gently for 30 min at room temperature e.g. using an eppendorf thermomixer.
- Remove bottom cap and place Receiver Column in a collecting tube.
- Centrifuge at 500 x g for 30 seconds. Discard flowthrough.

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### 3 Washing

- To wash the gel add 500  $\mu\text{l}$  of PBS.
- Centrifuge at 500 x g for 30 seconds. Discard flowthrough.
- Repeat the washing step twice (total wash 3 x 500  $\mu\text{l}$  of PBS). Discard flowthrough between washing steps.

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### 4 Elution

- Close column outlet with cap. Add 50  $\mu\text{l}$  of Elution buffer and close the lid.
- Mix the suspension gently for 10 min at room temperature to liberate the GST-tagged protein from the gel.
- Remove bottom cap and place Receiver Column in a 1.5 or 2 ml micro-centrifuge tube.
- Centrifuge at 500 x g for 30 seconds.
- Repeat the elution step twice. Pool the collected eluates.

*Note: The amount of elution buffer required may vary among fusion proteins. Volumes may have to be increased or additional elution steps may be necessary. Use a Bradford protein assay, SDS-PAGE or measure the absorbance at 280 nm to determine the yield of the eluted GST-tagged protein.*

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## 5.6 FPLC™ purification of GST-tagged proteins

Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B, with a maximum flow rate of approximately 250 cm/h, is compatible with common low pressure chromatography columns and FPLC™ applications. We recommend columns equipped with an adjustable plunger/flow adapter. Binding kinetics between GST and immobilized glutathione is relatively slow. Therefore use low rates for the loading step to allow maximal binding of the GST-tagged protein. The flow rate for equilibration, washing, and elution can be increased to reduce the purification time (see Table 2).

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### 1 Preparing the chromatography system

- Purge the pump with PBS. Assure that all air is displaced.
- Determine the bed volume of Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B required for your application (see section 3.3). Choose a appropriate chromatography column (e.g. from Omnifit or GE Healthcare). If more than 75% of the column volume is to be packed, equip the column with an extension to hold the complete volume of the agarose suspension.
- Eliminate air from outlet tubing and end piece of the column by injecting PBS into outlet tubing. Close outlet of column. Leave ~ 1 cm of buffer above the support net or frit.
- Inject PBS into the inlet tubing of the upper plunger to eliminate air. Place plunger into a beaker containing PBS until use.

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### 2 Column packing

- Resuspend Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B by mixing thoroughly to achieve a homogeneous suspension. Immediately transfer the determined volume of suspension to an appropriate vacuum flask. Pipette 1.333 ml of the original 75% suspension per ml of bed volume required and de-gas.
- Pour the entire slurry into the column in one continuous motion along a glass rod held against the inner wall of the column.
- Carefully fill the remaining space with PBS. Insert the upper plunger into the column without introducing air bubbles. Connect the inlet of the column to a pump.
- Open the column outlet and start the pump. Pass PBS through the column at a packing flow rate of approximately 250 cm/h (see Table 2 below) until height of gel bed becomes constant. Stop the pump and close the column outlet.
- Position the upper plunger on top of the column bed. Avoid to introduce air bubbles. Open the column outlet and start the pump at a flow rate of approximately 250 cm/h until the bed is stable. Re-position the plunger on the medium surface as necessary.

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### 3 Column equilibration

- Equilibrate the column with approximately 5-10 bed volumes of PBS until the baseline at 280 nm is stable.
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#### 4 Binding

- Load the centrifuged or filtered sample onto the column.

*NOTE: Binding kinetics between GST and immobilized glutathione is relatively slow. Therefore use low rates for the loading step to allow maximal binding of the GST-tagged protein.*

- Collect flow through and analyze e.g. by SDS-PAGE to verify that the GST-tagged protein has bound. If the fusion protein is found in early fractions of the flow-through, the flow rate should be decreased. If the fusion protein is absent in early fractions and does appear in late fractions of the flow-through the column capacity has been exceeded. In this case protein load should be reduced or bed volume should be increased.

#### 5 Washing

- Wash the column with 10 bed volumes of PBS or until the baseline at 280 nm is stable.

#### 6 Elution

- Elute the GST-tagged protein with 10 bed volumes of Elution buffer and collect fractions.
- Use a Bradford protein assay, SDS-PAGE or measure the absorbance at 280 nm to identify the fraction(s) which contain(s) the majority of the eluted GST-tagged protein and analyze by SDS-PAGE.

Table 2: Recommended flow rates for Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B				
Column diameter [mm]	Bed volume [ml]	Packing	Equilibration Washing Elution	Binding
		<b>Linear flow rate [cm/h]<sup>1</sup></b>		
		≤250	≤180	≤180
		<b>Volumetric flow rate [ml/min]</b>		
<b>6.6</b>	<b>1</b>	1.4	1	0.3 - 1
<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	7	5	0.5 - 5

<sup>1</sup> For converting from linear to volumetric flow rate see section 6.2.

## 5.7 Regeneration and storage

Reuse of Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B should only be performed with identical GST-tagged proteins to avoid possible cross-contamination. The lifetime of the matrix depends on the nature of the sample.

- If a single GST-tagged protein is to be purified several times, simply wash with 10 bed volumes of PBS.
- Basic cleaning: Wash resin with approximately 10 bed volumes of 100 mM Tris-HCl + 0.5 M NaCl, pH 8.5, followed by approximately 10 bed volumes of 100 mM sodium acetate + 0.5 M NaCl, pH 4.5. Repeat the above wash cycles twice. Wash with 5 bed volumes of PBS.
- Rigorous cleaning: To remove precipitated or denatured proteins wash with 2 bed volumes of 6 M guanidine hydrochloride, immediately followed by 5-10 bed volumes of PBS. To remove hydrophobically bound contaminants, wash with 4 bed volumes of 70% ethanol or 1% Triton X-100 followed by 5-10 bed volumes of PBS.

If you will not be using the matrix immediately wash with additional 5 bed volumes of 20% ethanol and store at 4°C.

## 6 Appendix

### 6.1 Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible cause and suggestions
Low protein yield	<p><i>Problems with vector construction</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that protein and tag are in frame.</li> </ul>
	<p><i>Low protein expression</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optimize bacterial expression conditions.</li> </ul>
	<p><i>Fusion protein forms insoluble aggregates (inclusion bodies)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lower the growth temperature from 37°C to 30-15°C.</li> </ul>
	<p><i>Extraction may be insufficient</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check extraction conditions (lysozyme, sonication).</li> <li>• Use up to 2% of a non-ionic detergent to improve cell disruption and/or solubilization of the fusion protein.</li> </ul>
Fusion Protein does not bind efficiently	<p><i>Sonication may have been too severe</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choose milder sonication conditions. Over-sonication can alter the conformation of the GST moiety and prevents the fusion protein from binding to Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B.</li> </ul>
	<p><i>Reducing agent missing</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By adding DTT to the lysis buffer (final concentration 5 mM) prior to cell lysis can significantly increase binding of some fusion proteins.</li> </ul>
	<p><i>Flow rate too high</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decrease flow rate for the loading step to allow maximal binding of the GST-tagged protein.</li> </ul>
	<p><i>Concentration of fusion protein is too dilute</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concentrate the sample. Yield depends on the concentration of the fusion protein in the lysate. If the sample is too dilute, fusion proteins may not bind efficiently.</li> </ul>
	<p><i>Protino® Glutathione Agarose 4B has been used several times</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean matrix according to section 5.7 or use fresh matrix. Immobilized glutathione can be degraded by <math>\gamma</math>-glutamyl transpeptidase activity in <i>E. coli</i> cell lysates. Therefore, matrices with immobilized glutathione have a finite lifetime.</li> </ul>



Problem	Possible cause and suggestions
Fusion protein elutes inefficiently	<p><i>Low elution volume</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the volume of elution Buffer. Depending on the nature of the fusion protein and the amount of protein loaded, additional elution steps or buffer volume is required.</li> </ul>
	<p><i>Flow rate too high</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decrease flow rate during elution.</li> </ul> <p><i>Incorrect buffer composition</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check composition and pH of elution buffer. In some cases up to 50 mM reduced glutathione may be used to improve elution.</li> </ul>
	<p><i>Elution buffer not prepared immediately before use</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare elution buffer immediately before use.</li> </ul>
Poor protein purity	<p><i>Insufficient washing</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of washes with PBS.</li> </ul>
	<p><i>Degradation of GST fusion protein</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add a protease inhibitor to the lysis solution. Multiple bands may be the result of partial degradation by host proteases during the purification procedure.</li> <li>• Keep all samples and buffers on ice to reduce the activity of proteases.</li> <li>• Use a protease-deficient host. Multiple bands may be the result of partial degradation by host proteases during cell growth.</li> </ul>
	<p><i>Sonication may have been too severe</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choose milder sonication conditions. Over-sonication can lead to the co-purification of host proteins with the GST-tagged protein.</li> </ul> <p><i>Co-purification of chaperonins</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Several chaperonins, that are involved in protein folding, may co-purify with GST fusion proteins, e.g. DnaK (~70 kDa), DnaJ (~37 kDa), GrpE (~40 kDa), GroEL (~57 kDa), GrpE (~40 kDa), GroEL (57 kDa), GroES (~10kDa). Several additional purification steps have been described. E.g. co-purification of DnaK can be avoided by treating the cell lysate with 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 5 mM ATP prior to purification. DnaK can be dissociated from other components in the presence of ATP and Mg<sup>2+</sup></li> </ul>

## 6.2 Converting from linear to volumetric flow rates and vice versa

### Converting from linear flow rate [cm/h] to volumetric flow rate [ml/min]

$$VF \text{ [ml/min]} = \frac{LF \text{ [cm/h]} \cdot A \text{ [cm}^2\text{]}}{60} = \frac{LF \text{ [cm/h]} \cdot \pi \cdot (d \text{ [cm]})^2}{60 \cdot 4}$$

### Converting from volumetric flow rate [ml/min] to linear flow rate [cm/h]

$$LF \text{ [cm/h]} = \frac{VF \text{ [ml/min]} \cdot 60}{A \text{ [cm}^2\text{]}} = \frac{VF \text{ [ml/min]} \cdot 60 \cdot 4}{\pi \cdot (d \text{ [cm]})^2}$$

- LF Linear flow rate [cm/h]  
 VF Volumetric flow rate [ml/min]  
 A Column cross-sectional area [cm<sup>2</sup>]  
 d Column inner diameter [cm]

## 6.3 Ordering information

Product	Cat. No.	Pack of
Protino <sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B	745500.10	10 ml (settled agarose beads)
Protino <sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B	745500.100	100 ml (settled agarose beads)
Protino <sup>®</sup> GST/4B Columns 1 ml	745510.5	5 columns
Receiver Columns 20 µm	740522.10/.50/.250	10/50/250
Protino <sup>®</sup> Columns 14 ml (without caps)	745250.10	10 columns
Protino <sup>®</sup> Columns 35 ml (without caps)	745255.10	10 columns

## 6.4 Product use restriction / warranty

Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B products were developed, designed and sold for research purposes only. They are suitable *for in vitro uses only*. No claim or representation is intended for its use to identify any specific organism or for clinical use (diagnostic, prognostic, therapeutic, or blood banking).

It is rather the responsibility of the user to verify the use of Protino<sup>®</sup> Glutathione Agarose 4B for a specific application range as the performance characteristic of this kit has not been verified to a specific organism.

This MACHEREY-NAGEL product is shipped with documentation stating specifications and other technical information. MACHEREY-NAGEL warrants to meet the stated specifications. MACHEREY-NAGEL's sole obligation and the customer's sole remedy is limited to replacement of products free of charge in the event products fail to perform as warranted. Supplementary reference is made to the general business terms and conditions of MACHEREY-NAGEL, which are printed on the price list. Please contact us if you wish an extra copy.

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