

## STAGE (STop And Go Extraction) TIPS Desalting Procedure

*Original Reference:* Juri Rappsilber, Yasushi Ishihama and Matthias Mann, 2003. **Stop And Go Extraction Tips** for Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization, Nanoelectrospray, and LC/MS Sample Pretreatment in Proteomics. *Anal. Chem.* 75, 663-670.

### Notes about sample composition:

- a) Acidify samples (pH 4 or less)
- b) Ensure that organic (acetonitrile, methanol) concentration is at or below 5 – 10%
- c) Reversed-phase material does not remove some detergents (e.g., SDS) and other hydrophobic contaminants, therefore perform detergent removal before C18 extraction.
- d) Adjust the glycerol composition of samples (if present) to 5 or 10% in order to reduce viscosity of the solvent

### Materials for Stage Tip assembly:

1. Empore reversed-phase extraction disks from 3M (SDB-XC reversed-phase material, 3M product number 2240/2340)
2. 17 or 18 gauge blunt ended syringe needle
3. 200  $\mu$ L pipette tips
4. 0.3 or 0.5 mm ID (PEEK or fused silica) tubing
5. 1.5 mL microfuge tubes

**Stage Tip assembly (P200 pipette tip with Empore C18 disk cores):** Place Empore disk flat on a clean hard surface, for instance a glass microscope slide. Press the (17 or 18 gauge) blunt ended syringe needle into the Empore disk to core out a piece of the filter material. Press a second core into the syringe needle for extra loading capacity. Place the needle into a 200  $\mu$ L pipette tip and push the cored disk pieces into the pipette tip with PEEK or fused silica tubing. Gently pack the material into the end of the pipette tip; a gap of several millimeters should be visible between the disk and the end of the tip. Do not overpack or underpack. Estimate of binding capacity of a '2-punch' Stage Tip is approximately 15  $\mu$ g.

**Stage Tip/Tube assembly:** Cut a cap from a 1.5 mL Eppendorf tube; bore a hole into the center of the cap; snap the cap onto a new 1.5 mL Eppendorf tube; place a pipette tip fitted with Empore disk cores into the hole in the cap. The tip of the pipette tip should be about 1 cm from the bottom of the tube. Alter the size of the hole in the lid if necessary. Prepare 1 cap/tip/tube assembly per sample.

### **DESALTING PROCEDURE (revised from original method)**

**Soln 1: Wash solvent:** 98:2:0.1%, water:acetonitrile:trifluoroacetic acid (TFA)

**Soln 2: Wetting solvent:** 80:20:0.1%, acetonitrile:water:trifluoroacetic acid (TFA)

**Soln 3: Elution solvent:** 40:60:0.1%, acetonitrile:water:trifluoroacetic acid (TFA)

*Prepare fresh solvents weekly; do not pipette neat TFA with plastic pipette tips, use glass syringe.*

*Follow protocol below for a 2-punch Stage Tip; reduce solvent amounts by 50% if for 1-punch Stage tip.*

1. Reconstitute samples in 60  $\mu$ l wash solvent (**Soln 1** '98:2:0.1%'), vortex 45 sec; centrifuge 3000 x g for 1 min. CHECK pH (pipette 0.5  $\mu$ l onto pH strip). Ensure pH is  $\leq$ 3. (Adjust with 10% aqueous TFA if necessary, in 0.5  $\mu$ l increments, for example.)
2. Pipette 60  $\mu$ l wetting solvent (**Soln 2** '80:20:0.1%') onto Stage Tip/Tube assembly. Centrifuge 450 x g for 2 minutes.
3. Pipette 60  $\mu$ l wash solvent (**Soln 1** '98:2:0.1%') onto the Stage Tip/Tube assembly. Centrifuge 450 x g for 2 minutes.
4. Discard liquid in bottom of Eppendorf tube, replace cap/StageTip.
5. Pipette samples into Stage Tip. Centrifuge 450 x g for 2 minutes. Ensure solvent is washed through Stage Tip; increase centrifuge time if necessary; do not over-centrifuge.
6. Wash C18 material: Pipette 60  $\mu$ l wash solvent (**Soln 1** '98:2:0.1%') onto the Stage Tip/Tube assembly. Centrifuge 450 x g for 2 minutes. **Repeat.**
7. Place cap/Stage Tip assembly onto a new 1.5 mL Eppendorf tube; label tube w/'**ST C18**', **sample name and your initials.**
8. Elute peptides from C18 material: Pipette 60  $\mu$ l elution solvent (**Soln 3** '40:60:0.1%') onto the Stage Tip/Tube assembly. Centrifuge 450 x g for 2 minutes.
9. Speed vacuum desalted peptide mixture to dryness.

