

**CORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA CHORCAÍ**

**Semester 1 Examinations 2010/11**

**Module Title: Biopharmaceutical Downstream**

**Module Code: BIOT7005**

**School:** Biological Sciences Department

**Programme Title:** Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Nutrition & Health Science

**Programme Code:** SNHSC\_8\_ Y4

**External Examiner(s):** Dr. Alison Gallagher

**Internal Examiner(s):** Dr. Sandra Lenihan

**Instructions:** Answer **Four** Questions. All Questions carry equal marks.

**Duration:** 2 hrs

**Allocation:** 50% of Module BIOT7005

**Requirements for this examination:**N/A

**Note to Candidates:** Please check the Programme Title and the Module Title to ensure that you have received the correct examination paper. If in doubt please contact an Invigilator.

**Q1. (a)** Outline the objectives of Downstream processing. (4 marks)

**(b)** Write a note how the protein properties size and solubility can play a role in purification. (12 marks)

**(c)** Define precipitation and outline how this technique is used in Nucleic Acid removal. (9 marks)  
**(25 marks)**

**Q2. (a)** Outline briefly the key operational differences between Dead End and Tangential Flow Filters. (8 marks)

**(b)** A filtration is run at a fixed flowrate of 800 lt/hr until the pressure reaches 2 bar. It then continues at a constant pressure of 2 bar.

$$\alpha = 3.5 \times 10^{10} \text{ m/kg} \quad R_m = 7.5 \times 10^{11} \text{ m}^{-1}$$
$$\mu = 0.001 \text{ kg/ms} \quad \text{Area} = 8 \text{ m}^2 \quad C_s = 2000 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

Note: Refer to Useful Equations Section for the relevant equations

**(i)** Find the volume of filtrate collected at the end of the constant rate period. (10 marks)

**(ii)** Calculate the length of time taken to complete the constant rate filtration (4 marks)

**(iii)** The viscosity of the bio product increases, what is the impact on filtration? (3 marks)  
**(25 marks)**

**Q3. (a)** List the non-mechanical cell lysis methods currently available. (4 marks)

**(b)** A packed bed is a dominant feature of a chromatography system. Discuss packed beds covering the following aspects; adsorption, voidage, packing techniques and potential issues. (12 marks)

**(c)** Proteins are being separated by Chromatography using a 10cm long column having 250 theoretical plates. The voidage fraction is 0.5 and the mobile phase retention time is 5 minutes.

Note: the distribution coefficients for the proteins are as follows:  
Albumin = 0, Conalbumin = 2, Lysozyme = 5.

Calculate the retention times of the three proteins.

(9 marks)  
**(25 marks)**

**Q4. (a)** Ion Exchange Chromatography is used as a means of protein purification. Discuss. (12 marks)

**(b)** Write a brief note on protein concentration determination. (9 marks)

**(c)** List **two** advantages of Affinity Chromatography. (4 marks)  
**(25 marks)**

- Q5. (a)** Identify four virus inactivation technologies. (4 marks)
- (b)** List the assumptions on operating a tubular centrifuge. (6 marks)
- (c)** What considerations should be taken into account when processing proteins using a RIPP Scheme? (6 marks)
- (d)** Write a brief note on Diafiltration. (9 marks)

**(25 marks)**

## *Useful Equations*

$$Q = \frac{A\Delta P}{\mu\alpha C_s \left( \frac{V}{A} \right) + \mu R_m}$$

$$Q = \frac{V}{t}$$

$$k' = \frac{K(1-\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}$$

$$\alpha = K_2/K_1 = k_2'/k_1'$$

$$t_R = t_M + t_R'$$

$$t_R = t_M \left[ 1 + \frac{K(1-\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon} \right]$$

$$t_M = V_c \varepsilon / Q$$

$$R = t_{R2} - t_{R1} / 0.5 (w_1 + w_2)$$

$$N = 16(t_R/w)^2$$