Enzymatic Assay of LEUCINE AMINOPEPTIDASE, MICROSOmal
(EC 3.4.11.2)

PRINCIPLE:

\[
\text{LAP} \quad \text{L-Leucine p-Nitroanilide} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{L-Leucine} + \text{p-Nitroaniline}
\]

Abbreviation used:
LAP = Leucine Aminopeptidase, Microsomal

CONDITIONS:  \(T = 37^\circ C, \text{pH} = 7.2, A_{405nm}, \text{Light path} = 1 \text{ cm}\)

METHOD:  Continuous Spectrophotometric Rate Determination

REAGENTS:

A.  50 mM Sodium Phosphate Buffer, pH 7.2 at 37°C
(Prepare 100 ml in deionized water using Sodium Phosphate, Dibasic, Anhydrous, Sigma Prod. No. S-0876. Adjust to pH 7.2 at 37°C with 1 M HCl.)

B.  Methanol
(Use Methanol, Sigma Prod. No. M-3641.)

C.  24 mM L-Leucine p-Nitroanilide Solution (LeuNA)
(Prepare 1 ml in Reagent B using L-Leucine p-Nitroanilide, Free Base, Sigma Prod. No. L-9125.)

D.  Leucine Aminopeptidase, Microsomal Enzyme Solution
(Immediately before use, prepare a solution containing 0.10 - 0.15 unit/ml of Leucine Aminopeptidase, Microsomal in cold deionized water.)

PROCEDURE:

Pipette (in milliliters) the following reagents into suitable cuvettes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Blank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reagent A (Buffer)</td>
<td>2.80</td>
<td>2.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reagent C (LeuNA)</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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PROCEDURE: (continued)

Mix by inversion and equilibrate to 37°C. Monitor the $A_{405\text{nm}}$ until constant, using a suitably thermostatted spectrophotometer. Then add:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Blank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deionized Water</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reagent D (Enzyme Solution)</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Immediately mix by inversion and record the increase in $A_{405\text{nm}}$ for approximately 5 minutes. Obtain the $\Delta A_{405\text{nm}}$/minute using the maximum linear rate for both the Test and Blank.

CALCULATIONS:

$$\text{Units/ml enzyme} = \frac{\text{$\Delta A_{405\text{nm}}$/min Test} - \text{$\Delta A_{405\text{nm}}$/min Blank})(3)(\text{df})}{(9.9)(0.1)}$$

3 = Total volume (in milliliters) of assay  
df = Dilution factor  
9.9 = Millimolar extinction coefficient of p-Nitroaniline at 405 nm  
0.1 = Volume (in milliliter) of enzyme used

$$\text{Units/mg solid} = \frac{\text{units/ml enzyme}}{\text{mg solid/ml enzyme}}$$

$$\text{Units/mg protein} = \frac{\text{units/ml enzyme}}{\text{mg protein/ml enzyme}}$$

UNIT DEFINITION:

One unit will hydrolyze 1.0 µmole of L-leucine p-nitroanilide to L-leucine and p-nitroanilide per minute at pH 7.2 at 37°C.

FINAL ASSAY CONCENTRATION:

In a 3.00 ml reaction mix, the final concentrations are 47 mM sodium phosphate, 0.80 mM L-leucine p-nitroanilide, 3.3% (v/v) methanol and 0.01 - 0.015 unit leucine aminopeptidase, microsomal.
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REFERENCES:


NOTES:

1. The millimolar extinction coefficient is described in Lin, S.H. and Van Wart, H.E. (1982).

2. This assay is based on the assay procedure described in Pfleiderer, G. (1982).

3. Where Sigma Product or Stock numbers are specified, equivalent reagents may be substituted.

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