



# Triple Detector Size Exclusion Chromatography for biomolecules characterization

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# Agenda

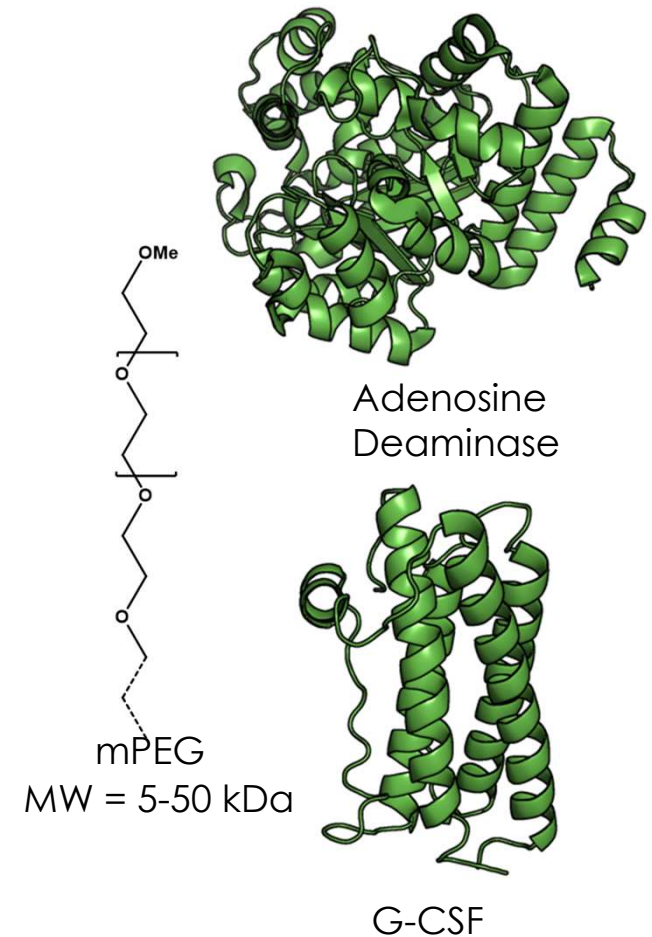
- Application Introduction
- SEC Principle
- Multi detection
- Case study : Protein PEGylation



# Application Introduction

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- PEGylation can give a number of advantages:
  - Improved therapeutic half-life
    - Increased efficacy
    - Reduced frequency and level of dosage required for effective treatment
  - Reduced immunogenicity
  - Improved solubility and stability



# SEC Principle

# SEC Principle

## Sample mixture

- Dissolved in the mobile phase

## Separation

### Stationary phase

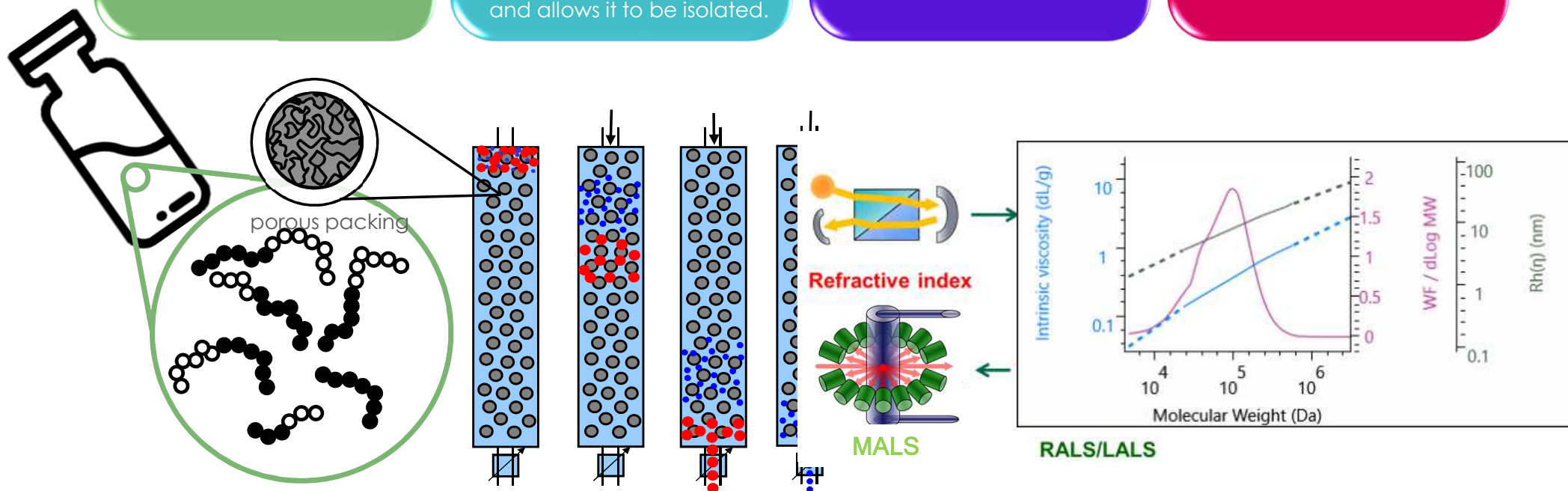
### Mobile phase

- Separates the analyte to be measured from other molecules in the mixture and allows it to be isolated.

## Detectors

## Results

- Molecular weight
- Size
- Amount
- Conyugation



# Introduction

## Advanced SEC

Indirectly calculate:

Molecular  
size (Rh)

Conformational  
Plot

Molecular  
weight

Molecular size  
(Rg)

Directly calculate:

Concentration  
Coniugation

Directly measure:

Light scattering  
intensity  
(Lals/Rals)

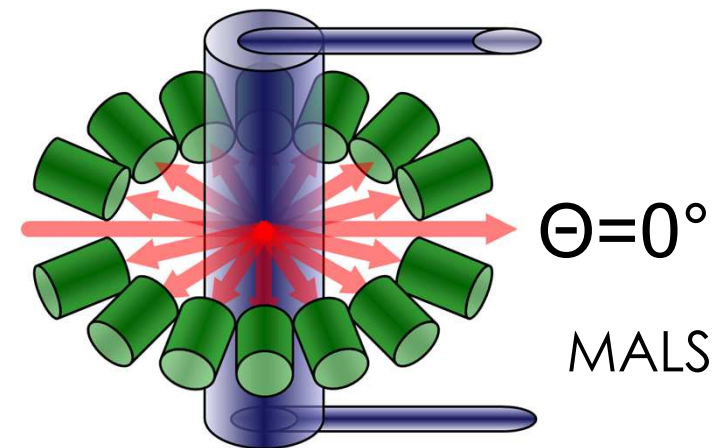
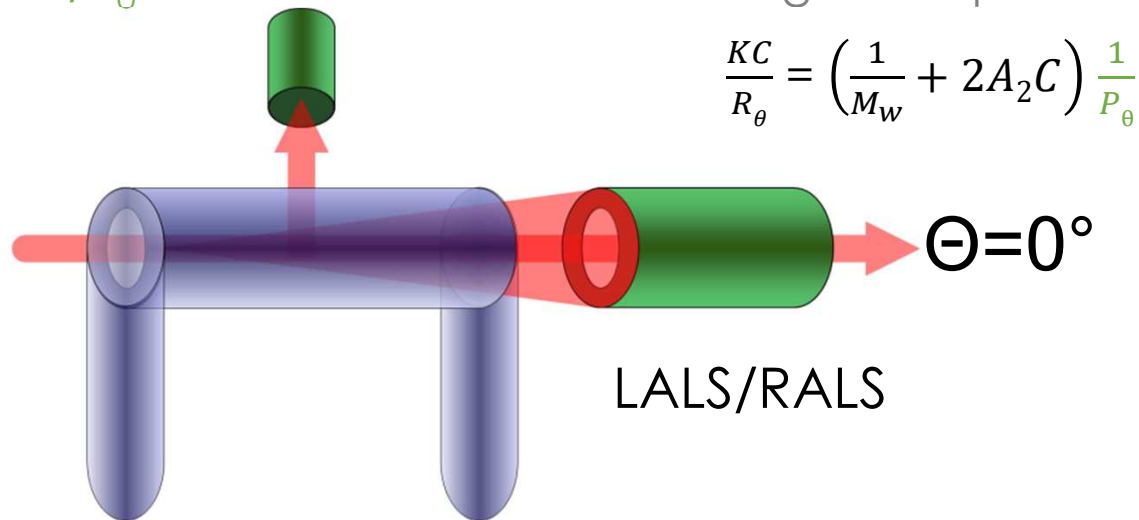
$\Delta$  Refractive  
Index

UV  
absorbance

Light scattering  
intensity (MALS)

# Light Scattering

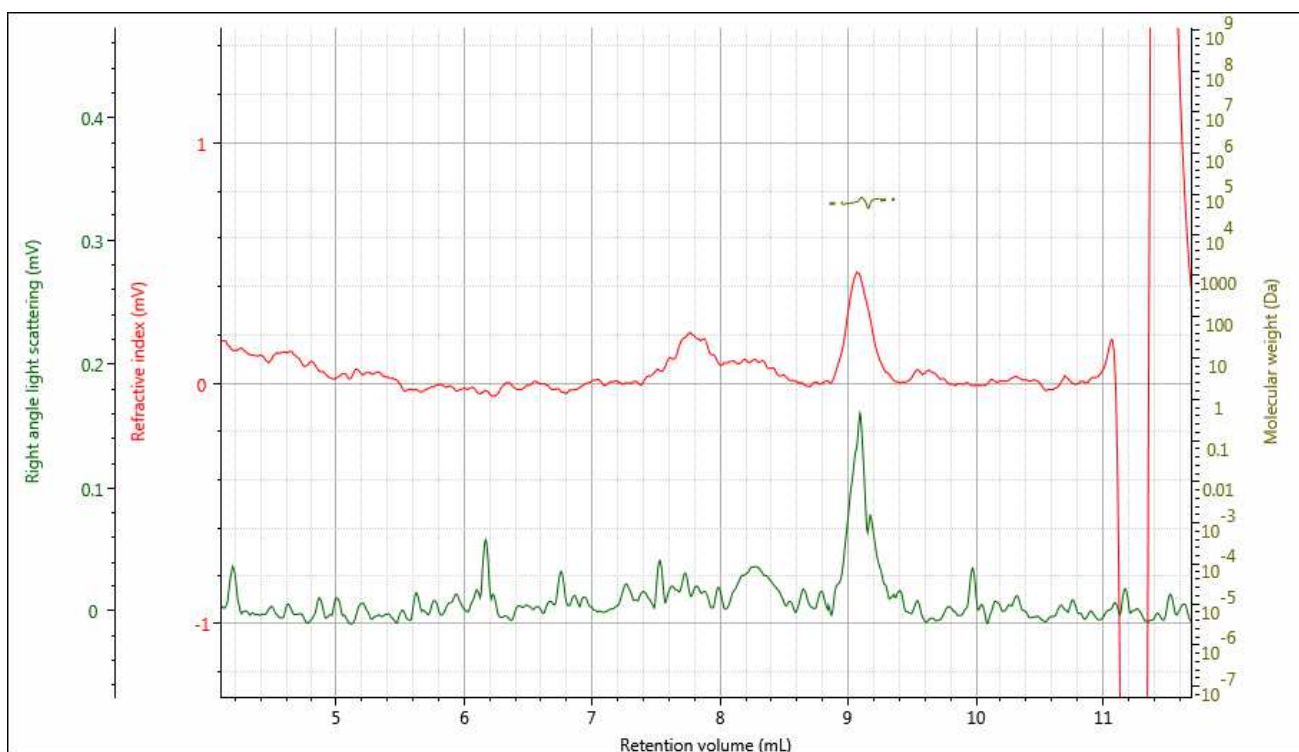
- Light scattering is used to measure **absolute molecular weight** of samples independent of column retention volume
- The LS detectors are the RALS/LALS (Right Angle Light Scattering / Low Angle Light Scattering) detector and or MALS (Multi Angle light Scattering)
- $1/P_{\theta}$  is a term that defines the angular dependence of the scattered light





# OMNISEC REVEAL LALS/RALS sensitivity

- Molecular weight quantification at 100 ng!
- BSA 66 KDa in PBS 0.05 mg/ml, 2  $\mu$ L injection
- Accurate calculation of molecular weight



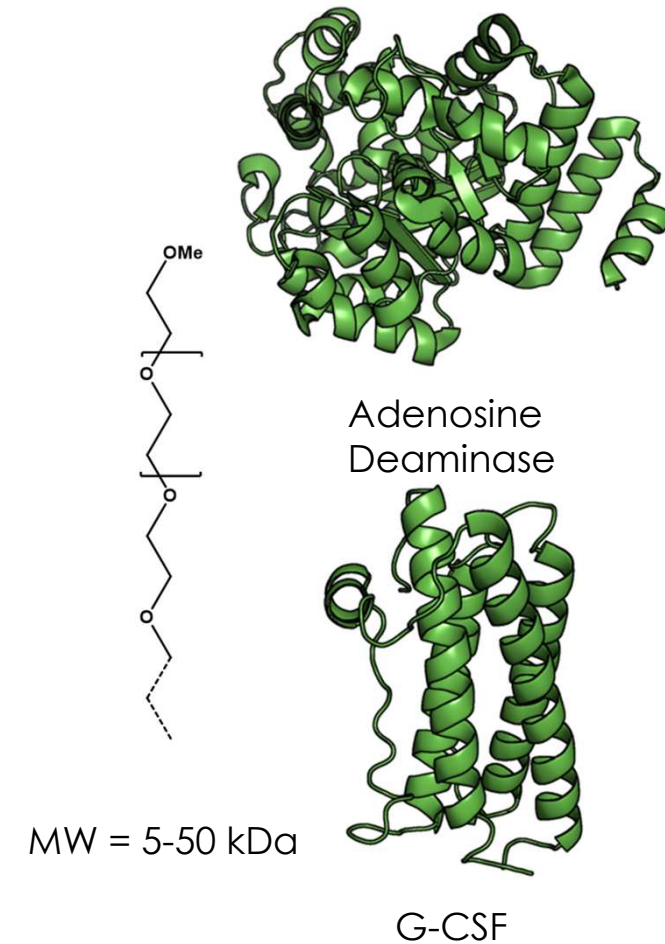
RV (mL)	9.083
Mn (g/mol)	63,800
Mw (g/mol)	65,070
Mz (g/mol)	66,290
Mw/Mn	1.02

# Case Study

# Case study: Protein PEGylation

## • PEGylated Proteins

- PEGylation: covalent attachment of poly(ethylene glycol) (PEG) to a protein surface
- PEG: Highly water-soluble polymer with low immunogenicity and FDA-approved
- Well-established, safe and successful technology
- PEGylation can give a number of advantages:
  - Improved therapeutic half-life
    - Increased efficacy
    - Reduced frequency and level of dosage required for effective treatment
  - Reduced immunogenicity
  - Improved solubility and stability



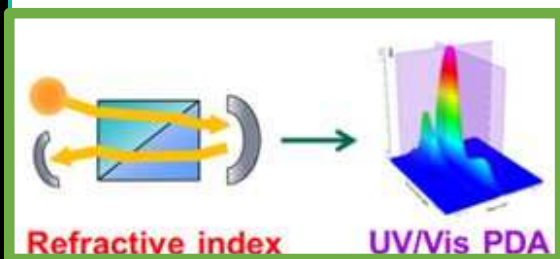
# Aim of the experiment

- To carry out PEGylation on a protein
- To analyse the crude PEGylated protein using the SEC system OMNISEC from Malvern Panalytical
- Understand the sample constituents at the molecular level

# Why compositional analysis?

## • The OMNISEC SEC system

- Two different species affect the detector signals in different ways, complicating the calculations
- Combination of RI and UV/Vis detectors allow for:



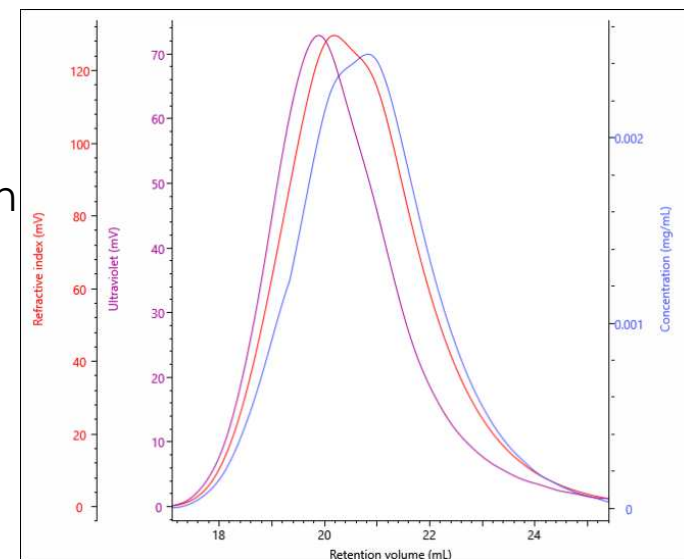
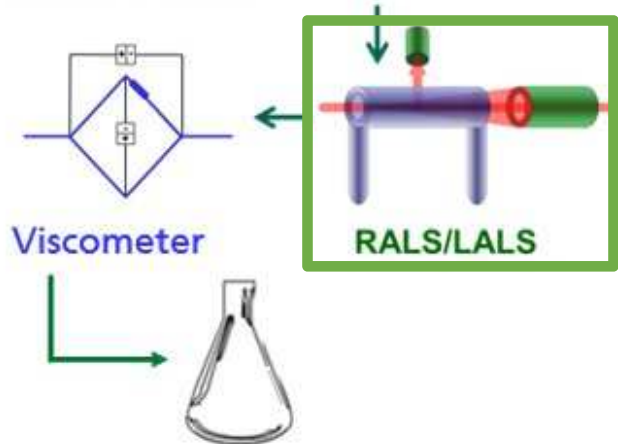
Concentration

$dn/dc$  and  $dA/dc$  of both components

Absolute molecular weight

Composition

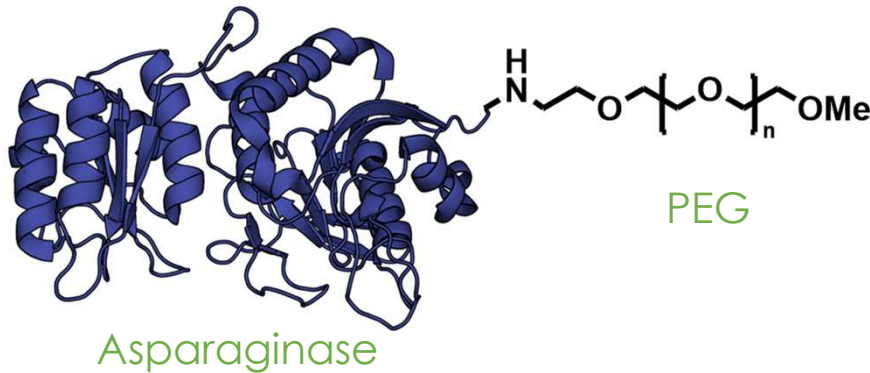
Components' weight fractions



New concentration profile

# OMNISEC compositional analysis

- PEGylated proteins



$$RI \text{ output} \propto C_{Asp} \cdot \left( \frac{dn}{dc} \right)_{Asp} + C_{PEG} \cdot \left( \frac{dn}{dc} \right)_{PEG}$$

$$UV \text{ output} \propto C_{Asp} \cdot \left( \frac{dA}{dc} \right)_{Asp}$$

- Concentrations of PEG and Asparaginase
- Mw of the complex
- Mw of PEG and Asparaginase
- Weight fractions of PEG and Asparaginase
- Conjugation degree (PEG/Asparaginase ratio)

- RI – Asparaginase and PEG
- UV @220 nm - Asparaginase



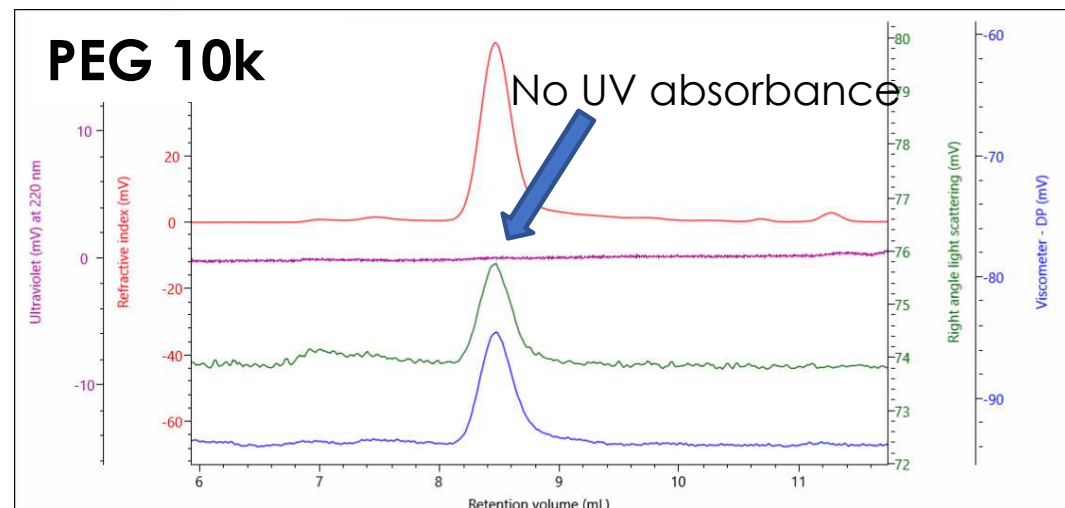
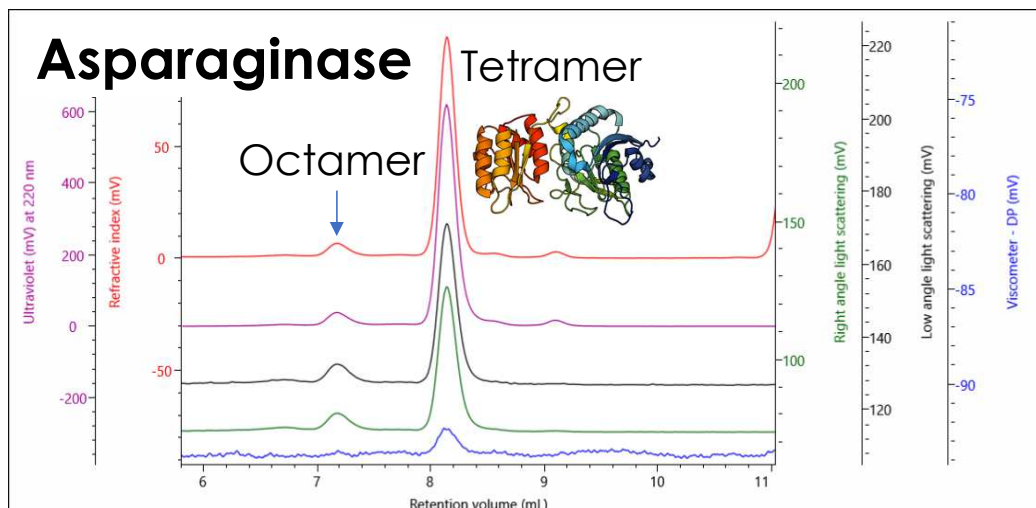
## Chromatography conditions

- In this study

OMNISEC set-up	
Column	Zenix-C 300
Flow rate	0.6 mL/min
Mobile phase	PBS
Column Temperature	30°C
Detectors Temperature	30°C
Autosampler Temperature	4°C
Injection volume	30 $\mu$ L
Sample concentration	~0.3 mg/mL

# Asparaginase & PEG starting materials

- Multi-detector chromatogram - pure components used for the PEGylated protein production.



Weight- & number-average molecular weight Dispersity

Intrinsic Viscosity Hydrodynamic radius

Sample	$M_w$ (Da)	$M_n$ (Da)	$\bar{D}$	IV (dL/g)	Rh (nm)
Asparaginase (tetramer peak)	134,000	133,600	1.003	0.024	3.69
PEG 10k	12,000	11,800	1.015	0.19	3.29

Monomeric  
Asparaginase  
 $M_w$   
33,500 Da

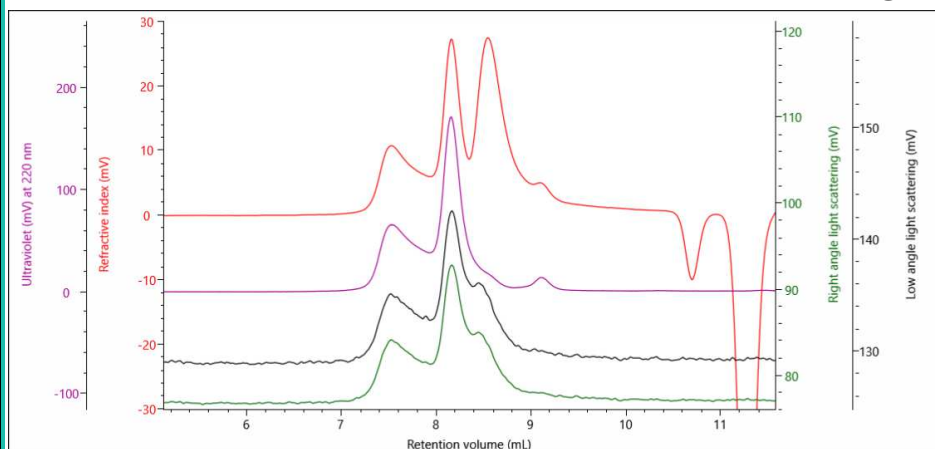


# PEGylated L-Asparaginase (A-PEGy 10k)

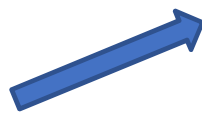
- A-PEGy 10k – Standard reaction conditions

Sample	Equivalents of PEG	Time	pH	Concentration (mg/mL)
A-PEGy 10k	2.5	overnight	5.0	0.3

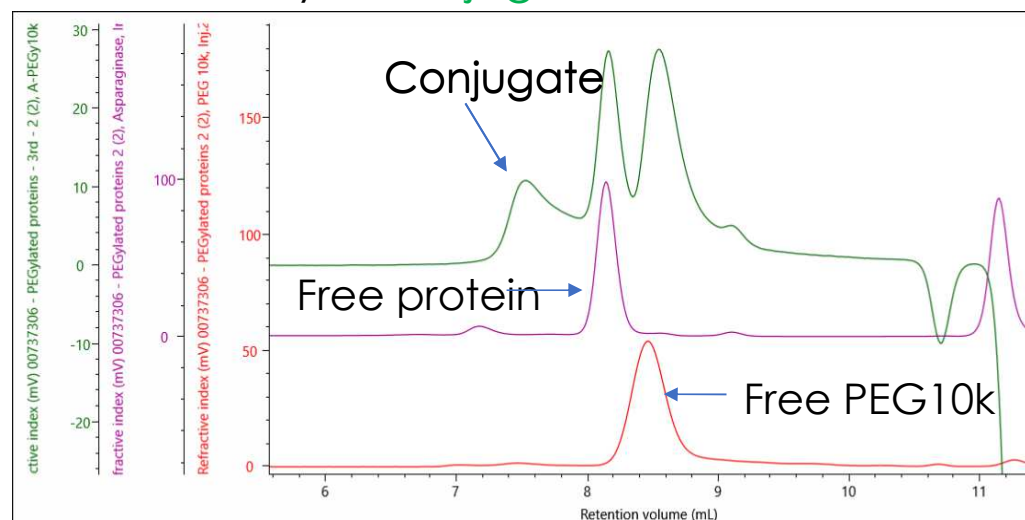
A-PEGy 10k – Multi-detector chromatogram



- Multiple peaks chromatogram
- Different detectors responses
- Where is the PEGylated protein?

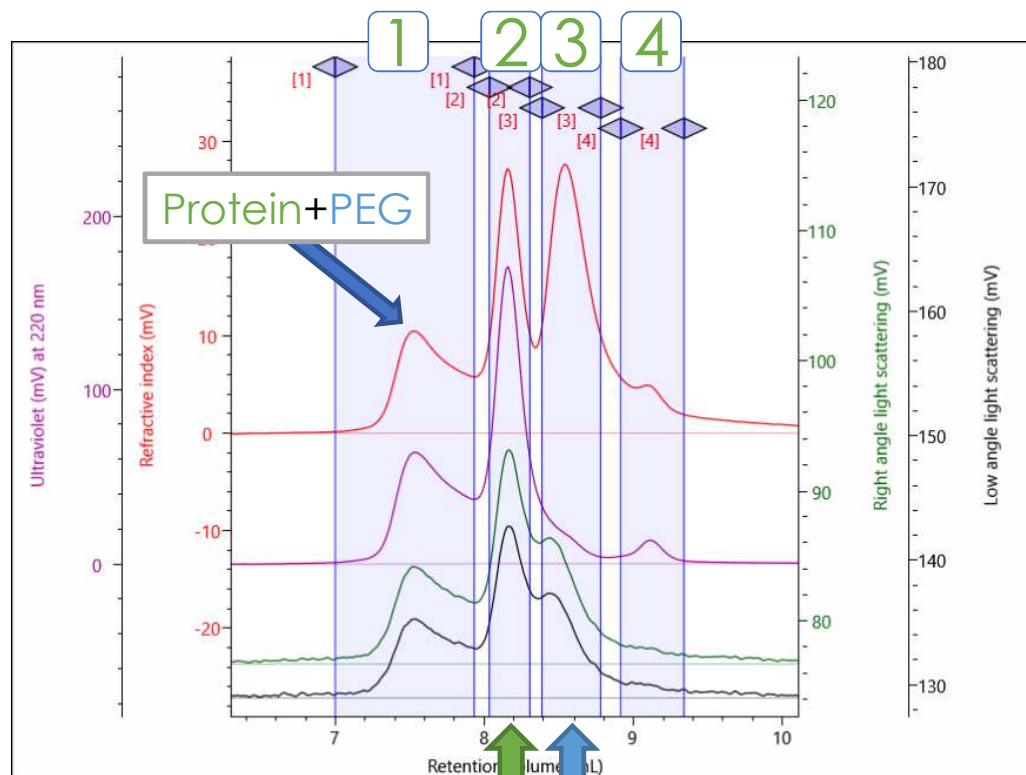


RI Overlay – Conjugate/Free Protein/Free PEG10k



# PEGylated L-Asparaginase

- A-PEGy 10k



Unreacted components

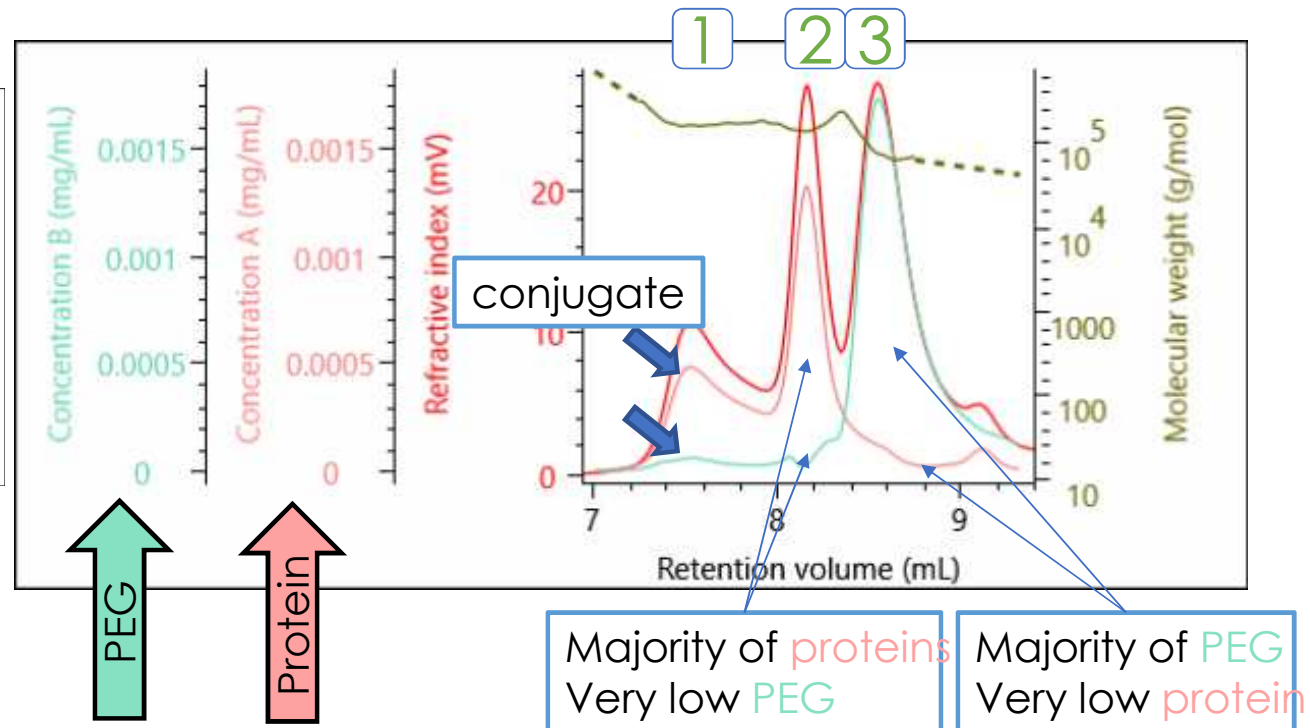
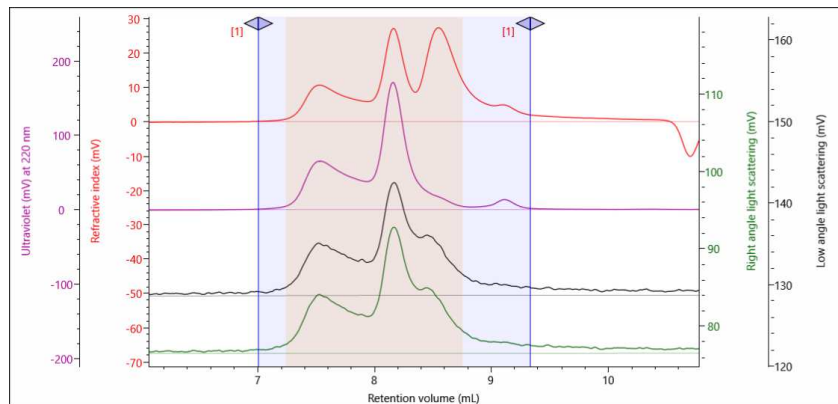
91% of PEG  
92% of protein

- Compositional analysis confirms the peaks corresponding to *unreacted protein* and *PEG*
- Concentration of components can be calculated

Sample	Replicates	RV (mL)	Weight Fraction PEG (%)	Weight Fraction Protein (%)	Concentration (Protein) (mg/mL)
Peak 1	i	7.5	12.5	87.5	0.51
	ii	7.5	12.7	87.3	0.51
	<b>Average</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>87.4</b>	<b>0.51</b>
Peak 2	i	8.2	8.1	91.9	0.53
	ii	8.2	8.2	91.8	0.54
	<b>Average</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>91.8</b>	<b>0.54</b>
Peak 3	i	8.6	91.5	8.5	0.05
	ii	8.6	91.4	8.7	0.05
	<b>Average</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>91.4</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>0.05</b>
Peak 4	i	8.9	78.8	21.2	0.12
	ii	8.9	79.2	20.8	0.12
	<b>Average</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>79.0</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>0.12</b>

# Concentration profiles

- A-PEGy 10k
- OMNISEC™ software allows you to look at the concentration profiles of protein and PEG by including the entire sample's chromatogram in the limits



# In conclusion

The OMNISEC is a multi detector SEC platform:

- Absolute Mw
- Oligomeric state
- Protein coniugation



Thank you for your attention  
Any Question?

We are available to measure your samples:  
[www.alfatestlab.it](http://www.alfatestlab.it)  
[roberto.santoliquido@alfatest.it](mailto:roberto.santoliquido@alfatest.it)

# Contattaci



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