Journal of Industrial Microbiology (1996) 17, 322
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ERRATUM

Purification and properties of an intracellular leucine aminopeptidase from the fungus, *Penicillium citrinum* strain IFO 6352

S-C Kwon, S-J Park and J-M Cho

In the above paper published in *Journal of Industrial Microbiology* 1996; **17**: 30–35, the abstract was incorrectly worded indicating an incorrect conclusion of the experiment. The correct version is shown below.

An intracellular leucine aminopeptidase (LAP) from *Penicillium citrinum* (IFO 6352) was purified to homogeneity using three successive purification steps. The enzyme has a native molecular mass of 63 kDa using HPLC gel filtration analysis and a molecular mass of 65 kDa when using SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. This monomeric aminopeptidase showed maximum enzyme activity at pH 8.5. An optimum temperature was 45–50°C when L-Leu-*p*-nitroanilide (*p*NA) was the substrate, and enzyme activity drastically decreased above 60°C. The Michaelis–Menten constants for L-Leu-*p*NA and L-MET-*p*NA were 2.7 mM and 1.8 mM, respectively. When the enzyme reacted with biosynthetic methionyl human growth hormone, it showed high specificity for N-terminal methionine residue and recognized a stop sequence (Xaa-Pro). The aminopeptidase was inactivated by EDTA or 1,10-phenanthroline, indicating that it is a metallo-exoprotease. Enzyme activity was restored to 90% of maximal activity by addition of Co^{2+} ions. The activity of EDTA-treated enzyme was not restored by addition of Zn^{2+}, but reconstitution with Ca^{2+}, Mg^{2+} or Mn^{2+} restored some enzyme activity. It is likely that Co^{2+} ions play an important role in the catalysis or stability of the *Penicillium citrinum* aminopeptidase, as zinc plays a similar function in other leucine aminopeptidases.