

# Whole Cell Kinetics Direct

The KinExA® instrument can be used to measure the  $k_{on}$  of a molecule to a cell surface receptor. For this experiment, a fixed number of cells are incubated with a fixed constant binding partner (CBP) and samples are measured at varying time points pre equilibrium. Prior to running each sample, however, all cells must be removed from solution (if left in the solution they can clog the flow cell screen). The incubation time of the cells and CBP for each sample must be recorded for accurate data analysis.

1. Use the information from previous equilibrium experiments and the theory curve to determine the following:
  - a) The concentration of CBP needed to obtain a good signal.
  - b) The concentration of cells that produces ~80% inhibition for the CBP concentration selected in a) above.
  - c) The volumes necessary to perform the assay. (Make sure to include additional volume so that the appropriate amount of supernatant can be removed without disturbing the cell pellet after samples have been centrifuged.)
2. Use the theory curve\* to determine the following:
  - a) The number of samples to prepare.
  - b) The time between the data points.

\*Refer to Tech Note 220 *Theory Curve, A Guided Tour-Part 2 Kinetics Time Course (TN220)* for more information on how to use the theory curve.
3. Prepare the CBP and cells at *two times the final concentration* in order to achieve the correct concentrations after mixing. This is because the CBP and cells are prepared separately in sample buffer and then mixed together at the appropriate time.
4. Each sample will be mixed according to the total incubation needed for each data point. Refer to **Figure 1** for an example of the timing calculations.

5. For the 1<sup>st</sup> tube mix an equal volume of CBP and cells, cap the tube, and set it on the rotator. Wait the calculated amount of time between data points and then prepare the next sample in the 2<sup>nd</sup> tube the same way the 1<sup>st</sup> tube was prepared. Continue this until all of the samples have been mixed.
6. Centrifuge all of the samples at the same time.
 

**Note:** Add half of this centrifuge time to the incubation time on the bench (**Figure 1**).
7. Remove the supernatant from each sample and place it in a clean tube with the corresponding sample tube number.
8. Set up a “Kinetics Direct Whole Cell” template under the *Timing Setup* tab. Be sure to edit the number of samples in the sample set to the number of samples that were made.
9. Run the experiment.
10. Once the experiment is complete, input the total incubation time (in seconds) for each sample into the *Binding Signals* tab and analyze the experiment.

Sample Tube	Bench Incubation Time (min)	Half Spin Time (min)	Total Incubation Time (min)	Total Incubation Time (sec)
1	60	5	65	3900
2	45	5	50	3000
3	30	5	35	2100
4	15	5	20	1200
5	10	5	15	900
6	5	5	10	600
7	0	5	5	300

**Figure 1.** Example of sample timing calculations. The “Bench Incubation Time” is how long the sample has incubated before centrifugation. In this example sample tube 1 is mixed with CBP at 10:00 am, tube 2 is mixed at 10:15 am, and so on until all of the samples are centrifuged at 11:00 am for 10 minutes. Therefore tube 1 has incubated for a total of 65 minutes (60 minute bench incubation time + 5 minute half spin = 65 min total incubation time).