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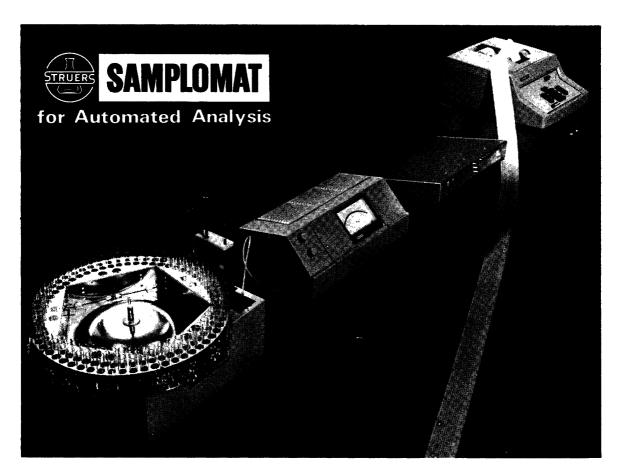
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Contents

September 1969

The effect of blue light on glycolate oxidase of tobacco

by G. H. SCHMID

Virusproteins, IV: The constitution of the coat protein of the fd phage

by F. Asbeck, K. Beyreuther, H. Köhler, G. V. Wettstein and G. Braunitzer

Interactions between oestrogens and catecholamins, I: Influence of enzymatic methylation of catechol amines on oestrogens and vice versa

by R. Knuppen, W. Lubrich, O. Haupt, U. Ammerlahn and H. Breuer

Volatile aldehydes in the odoriferous secretion of the stink bug *Libyaspis angolensis* by S. CMELIK

A method for the preparation of ceramides from brain gangliosides and the nature of their sphingosine bases

by E. KLENK and R. T. C. HUANG

2-Deoxy-2,3-dehydrosialic acids, II: Competitive inhibition of *Vibrio cholerae* neuraminidase by 2-deoxy-2,3-dehydro-*N*-acylneuraminic acids

by P. Meindl and H. Tuppy

XXI. Communication on seed proteins: The occurrence of prolamines in meadow grasses and a comparison with the prolamines of cereals

by H. KLING

The evolution of endopeptidases, X: The specificity of the low molecular weight protease from Astacus leptodactylus Esch.

by H.-H. Sonneborn, R. Zwilling and G. Pfleiderer

Studies on the cytochrome c of the tube worm Tubifex (Annelida, Oligochaeta)

by A. Hennig, H.-J. Horstmann and L. Gürtler

Studies on protein structure and enzyme activity, III: Inhibition by pyridoxal 5'-phosphate of glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase and other enzymes of carbohydrate metabolism

by W. Domschke and G. F. Domagk

Studies on protein structure and enzyme activity, IV: Demonstration of essential histidine residues in the glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase from Candida utilis

by W. Domschke, H. J. Engel and G. F. Domagk

Mitochondria from brown adipose tissue: Uncoupling of oxidative phosphorylation by long chain fatty acids and recoupling by guanosine triphosphate

by J. Rafael, H.-J. Ludolph and H.-J. Hohorst

The effect of antilymphocyte serum and phytohaemagglutinin on respiration and glycolysis of normal human lymphocytes by R. AVERDUNK and H.-J. KIRSTAEDTER

Oligosaccharides from Streptococcus lactis: a new glucotriose, $4-O-\alpha$ -D-glucopyranosyl- α , α -trehalose, and homologues by W. Fischer and K. Winkler

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

Complete amino acid sequence of a λ -chain of subgroup II (Bence-Jones-protein VIL.): Evolution as the basis for antibody specificity

by H. Ponstingl and N. Hilschmann

Different binding of solvent to the peptide carbonyl group in different conformational environments induces the Helix I ⇌ Helix II transition of poly-L-proline

by H. STRASSMAIR, S. KNOF and J. ENGEL

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Vol. 37, No. 3

DECEMBER, 1969

- Serum protein concentrations in normal infants. By BERENICE ABRAMS and T. FREEMAN.
- The effect of angiotensin on isolated rabbit renal tubules. By J. K. HEALY, J. B. DOUGLAS and J. E. ARNOLD.
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- Proximal tubular acidification in man. By R. ARDAILLOU and J. P. FILLASTRE.
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- Absorption products of D(-)-fructose in man. By G. C. Cοοκ.
- The effects of inhibition of carbonic anhydrase with dichlorphenamide on ventilatory control at rest and on exercise in normal subjects. By A. CHESA, T. B. STRETTON, A. A. E. MASSOUD and J. B. L. HOWELL.
- Response of kidney and salivary gland G-6-PD and renin to adrenalectomy, angiotensin, bradykinin and meralluride. By J. P. CAPELLI, L. G. WESSON, Jr. and G. E. APONTE.
- Circulatory effects of breathing oxygen in patients with chronic anaemia. By E. Housley and R. B. Hedworth-Whitty.

- The disappearance of labelled human growth hormone from the forearm circulation in normal and diabetic subjects. By BARBARA J. BOUCHER, W. J. H. BUTTERFIELD and MARGARET J. WHICHELOW.
- Hypoxic pulmonary vasoconstriction in unanaesthetized with constant arterial PCO₂ and pH. By O. G. THILENIUS and CAROL DERENZO.
- Rheological evidence for the existence of dissociated macromolecular complexes in rheumatoid synovial fluid. By J. FERGUSON, J. A. BOYLE and G. NUKI.
- Observations on the intestinal absorption of some oligopeptides of methionine and glycine in the rat. By D. M. MATTHEWS, MARIA T. LIS, B. CHENG and R. F. CRAMPTON.
- The effect of age, sex and exercise on the secretion of growth hormone. By J. M. BUCKLER.
- Factors responsible for proximal sodium conservation as assessed by distal tubular blockade. By S. GARELLA, J. A. CHAZAN and J. J. COHEN.
- The responses to exercise in boys aged 9-15 years. By SNEH GADHOKE and N. L. JONES.
- Role of various causes of arterial desaturation in liver cirrhosis. By A. CHIESA, G. CIAPPI, L. BALBI and L. CHIANDUSSI.
- The metabolism of ammonia in liver disease: a comparison of urinary data following oral and intravenous loading of [15N]ammonium lactate. By W. M. B. GAY, C. W. CRANE and W. D. STONE.
- The enterohepatic circulation of urea nitrogen. By E. A. JONES, R. A. SMALLWOOD, ANNE CRAIGIE and V. M. ROSENOER.
- Abnormalities of fibrin stabilization in liver and kidney disease: a comparison of two different methods. By W. D. WALLS and M. S. LOSOWSKY.
- Factors determining the distribution of pulmonary blood flow in patients with raised pulmonary venous pressure. By J. M. B. HUGHES, J. B. GLAZIER, D. Y. ROSENZWEIG and J. B. WEST.
- The influence of dietary sodium and potassium intake on the genesis of frusemide-induced alkalosis. By Ch. van YPERSELE de STRIHOU and J. MORALES-BARRIA.

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The following is abstracted largely from Rec. trav. chim. 73, 229 (1954) and from the Ph.D. thesis of Dr. T. J. de Boer, Groningen, 1953.

1. Preparation of ethereal-alcoholic solutions of diazomethane:

Ethanol (95%, 25 ml) is added to a solution of potassium hydroxide (5 g) in water (8 ml) in a 100 ml distilling flask fitted with dropping funnel and an efficient condenser set downward for distillation. The condenser is connected to two receiving flasks in series, the second of which contains 20-30 ml ether. The inlet tube of the second receiver dips below the surface of the ether, and both receivers are cooled to 0°.

The flask containing the alkali solution is heated in a water bath to 65°, and a solution of 21.5 g (0.1 mole) of Diazald® in about 200 ml of ether is added through the dropping funnel in about 25 minutes. The rate of distillation should about equal the rate of addition. When the dropping funnel is empty, another 40 ml of ether is added slowly and the distillation is continued until the distilling ether is colorless. The combined ethereal distillate contains about 3 g of diazomethane.

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2. Preparation of alcohol-free ethereal solutions of diazomethane:

2-(2-Ethoxyethoxy)-ethanol, our No. E455-0, (35 ml) and ether (20 ml) are added to a solution of potassium hydroxide (6 g) in water (10 ml). This solution is placed in a 100 ml long-necked distilling flask fitted with dropping funnel, efficient condenser, and water bath at 70°. As the distillation of the ether starts, a solution of 21.5 g of Diazald® in about 200 ml of ether is added through the dropping funnel over 20 minutes. During the distillation the flask is occasionally shaken vigorously. The ethereal diazomethane is collected in the same manner as in (1). The yield is identical.

yield is identical.

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