



Product Information

GOLD COLLOIDS AND GOLD CONJUGATES

GOLD COLLOID (see page 2)

APPEARANCE: Clear dark red liquid

EXTINCTION COEFFICIENT: Certificate of Analysis reports absorbance and gold content of product.

CONCENTRATION: Approximately 0.01% as HAuCl_4

STABILITY/STORAGE:

Store at 2-8°C for up to 18 months. Freezing may cause aggregation. Sodium azide (0.02%) has been added as preservative. Once stabilized with protein, the solution may be supplemented with an antibacterial agent and stored at 2-8°C.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS: Lot specific Certificate of Analysis is available.

CHOOSING A PARTICLE SIZE:

Generally, particles <15 nm are most useful in transmission electron microscopy (TEM) and for applications where access to the probe may be hindered by larger particles.⁴¹ Particles >15 nm are more suitable for scanning electron microscopy (SEM), light microscopy and blotting. Sigma's gold colloids are all monodisperse (the coefficient of variance of the particle size is <15% of the mean particle size). In electron microscopy, monodisperse particles facilitate quantitation and allow for dual labeling with different particle sizes.⁴²

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR USAGE:

The proper pH and concentration must be determined for each protein selected to complex with the gold.^{43,44} The tannic acid in the gold sol must be broken down to reduce its masking effects.²⁷ After ligand adsorption, final blocking of the sol may be done with polyethylene glycol (PEG), BSA or gelatin.⁴⁵ After stabilization of the gold (by reacting with protein), excess ligand should be removed by centrifugation or chromatography, and aggregates should be removed by centrifugation.^{44,46}

GOLD COLLOIDS AND GOLD CONJUGATES

DESCRIPTION:

Colloidal gold is an electron-dense, non-fading marker useful as a probe in electron microscopy (TEM and SEM), light microscopy and blotting.²⁶ It requires no additional processing for detection, but in some applications the signal can be enhanced by reaction with silver.^{4,40} It can be complexed with biomolecules by strong, non-covalent interactions.¹ All unconjugated gold colloids offered by Sigma contain about 0.01% H₂AuCl₄ suspended in 0.01% tannic acid with 0.04% trisodium citrate, 0.26 mM potassium carbonate and 0.02% sodium azide as preservative; all are produced by a modified tannic acid method of Slot and Geuze.²⁷

GOLD COLLOIDS		
PRODUCT NO.	NAME - DESCRIPTION	PARTICLE SIZE
G-1402	Gold Colloid	Spec: 5 nm Mean: 3-6 nm (monodisperse)
G-1527	Gold Colloid	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)
G-1652	Gold Colloid	Spec: 20 nm Mean: 17-23 nm (monodisperse)

GOLD COLLOIDS AND GOLD CONJUGATES

GOLD-ANTIBODY CONJUGATES (see page 4)

APPEARANCE: Clear dark red liquid

EXTINCTION COEFFICIENT: Certificate of Analysis reports absorbance and gold content of product.

STABILITY/STORAGE:

Store at 2-8°C for up to 18 months.

Sodium azide (0.05%) has been added as preservative.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS: Lot specific Certificate of Analysis is available.

CHOOSING A PARTICLE SIZE:

Generally, particles <15 nm are most useful in transmission electron microscopy (TEM) and for applications where access to the probe may be hindered by larger particles.⁴¹ Particles >15 nm are more suitable for scanning electron microscopy (SEM), light microscopy and blotting. Sigma's gold colloids are all monodisperse (the coefficient of variance of the particle size is <15% of the mean particle size). In electron microscopy, monodisperse particles facilitate quantitation and allow for dual labeling with different particle sizes.⁴²

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR USAGE:

Gold-conjugated antibodies should be diluted for most applications using 0.5 M NaCl buffered at pH 6-8 with 0.1% BSA, 0.05% Tween 20 and 50% fetal bovine serum to minimize background staining. For most applications dilutions may range from $A_{520}=1.0-0.05$ (1:5-1:100 dilution), Incubation times range from 0.5-12 hours.

DESCRIPTION:

Gold-antibody conjugates are used to detect antigens and require no additional reagents, unless silver enhancement is used to increase assay sensitivity. These products are typically used as probes in electron and light microscopy and immunoblotting procedures.^{2,3,4} All antibodies are conjugated to gold by a modification of Geoghagan's method.¹ Conjugates are tested for immunoreactivity using the dot blot assay of Brada and Roth.⁴ These products are supplied as suspensions in 20% glycerol with 1% BSA, 0.02 M Tris buffered saline, pH 8.0 and 0.05% sodium azide.

GOLD COLLOIDS AND GOLD CONJUGATES

GOLD-ANTIBODY CONJUGATES		
PRODUCT NO.	NAME - DESCRIPTION	HOST ANIMAL
G-0786	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Human IgG (γ-chain specific) 5 nm colloidal gold labeled (monodisperse) Antibody adsorbed with mouse serum proteins.	Goat
G-0911	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Human IgM (μ-chain specific) 10 nm colloidal gold labeled (monodisperse)	Goat
G-5402	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Goat IgG (whole molecule) 10 nm colloidal gold labeled (monodisperse)	Rabbit
G-5528	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Goat IgG (whole molecule) 5 nm colloidal gold labeled (monodisperse) Antibody adsorbed with human serum proteins.	Rabbit
G-5527	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Goat IgG (whole molecule) 10 nm colloidal gold labeled (monodisperse) Antibody adsorbed with human serum proteins.	Rabbit
G-7652	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Mouse IgG (whole molecule) 10 nm colloidal gold labeled (monodisperse)	Goat
G-7527	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Mouse IgG (whole molecule) 5 nm colloidal gold labeled (monodisperse) Antibody adsorbed with human serum proteins	Goat
G-7777	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Mouse IgG (whole molecule) 10 nm colloidal gold labeled (monodisperse) Antibody adsorbed with human serum proteins.	Goat
G-5652	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Mouse IgM (μ-chain specific) 10 nm colloidal gold labeled (monodisperse)	Goat
G-7402	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Rabbit IgG (whole molecule) 10 nm gold colloid labeled (monodisperse)	Goat
G-7277	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Rabbit IgG (whole molecule) 5 nm gold colloid labeled (monodisperse) Antibody adsorbed with human serum proteins.	Goat
G-3779	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Rabbit IgG (whole molecule) 10 nm gold colloid labeled (monodisperse) Antibody adsorbed with human serum proteins.	Goat
G-5410	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Rat IgG (whole molecule) 5 nm gold colloid labeled (monodisperse) Antibody adsorbed with human serum proteins.	Goat
G-7035	Affinity Isolated Antibody to Rat IgG (whole molecule) 10 nm gold colloid labeled (monodisperse) Antibody adsorbed with human serum proteins.	Goat

GOLD COLLOIDS AND GOLD CONJUGATES

GOLD-LECTIN CONJUGATES (see pages 6,7, and 8)

APPEARANCE: Clear dark red liquid

EXTINCTION COEFFICIENT: Certificate of Analysis reports absorbance and gold content of product.

STABILITY/STORAGE:

Store at -20°C or at 2-8°C (depending on product) for up to 18 months.

Some of the products may be stored undiluted at -20°C, but diluted samples should not be stored below 0°C, since freezing may cause aggregation of the colloid.

Unless otherwise stated in the description of an individual product number, sodium azide (0.02%) has been added as preservative.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS: Lot specific Certificate of Analysis is available.

CHOOSING A PARTICLE SIZE:

Generally, particles <15 nm are most useful in transmission electron microscopy (TEM) and for applications where access to the probe may be hindered by larger particles.⁴¹ Particles >15 nm are more suitable for scanning electron microscopy (SEM), light microscopy and blotting. Sigma's gold colloids are all monodisperse (the coefficient of variance of the particle size is <15% of the mean particle size). In electron microscopy, monodisperse particles facilitate quantitation and allow for dual labeling with different particle sizes.⁴²

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR USAGE:

Gold-conjugated lectins should be diluted for most applications. It is recommended that the diluent buffer contain 0.15 M saline buffered at pH 6-8, plus 0.5% albumin and 0.05% Tween 20 to minimize background. Additional buffer supplements may be required for certain applications. Prior to application, allow the conjugate to equilibrate for at least 20 minutes in lower glycerol content. The optimum concentration of the conjugate should be determined empirically; a typical range is $A_{520}=1.0-0.05$ (1:5-1:100 dilution). Incubation times range from 0.5-12 hours.

DESCRIPTION:

Lectins are proteins or glycoproteins of plant (non-immune) origin that agglutinate cells and/or precipitate complex carbohydrates. The agglutination activity of these highly specific carbohydrate binding molecules is usually inhibited by a simple monosaccharide, but for some lectins di-, tri- or polysaccharides are required. Conjugation does not alter the specificity of the lectin. For gold conjugates, the lectin's activity is determined by a dot blot assay using an appropriate glycoprotein. Further general and specific information about lectins can be found on pp. 5-6 and in review articles.⁹⁻¹³

GOLD COLLOIDS AND GOLD CONJUGATES

GOLD-LECTIN CONJUGATES			
PRODUCT NO.	NAME - DESCRIPTION	PARTICLE SIZE	SUGAR SPECIFICITY
L-1644	<p>Arachis hypogaea (Peanut) Affinity purified. Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M sodium phosphate, pH 7.2, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide. Peanut agglutinin (PNA) does not agglutinate normal human erythrocytes, but strongly agglutinates neuraminidase treated erythrocytes. PNA has potent anti-T activity similar to the anti-T antibody in human serum.²⁸ The lectin can be used to distinguish between human lymphocyte subsets.²⁹</p>	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)	β -gal(1-3)galNAc ¹⁴
L-8529 ⁵	<p>Concanavalin A (Con A) From <i>Canavalia ensiformis</i> (Jack bean). Affinity purified. Prepared from C-7275. Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M sodium phosphate, pH 6.8, 0.1 mM Ca²⁺, 0.1 mM Mn²⁺, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide. Con A is not blood group specific, but has an affinity for terminal α-D-mannosyl and α-D-glucosyl residues.³⁰ Ca²⁺ and Mn²⁺ ions are required for activity.³⁰ Con A dissociates into dimers at or below pH 5.6; it exists as a tetramer between pH 5.8 and 7.0; above pH 7.0 higher aggregates are formed.³¹ Con A exhibits mitogenic activity which is dependent on its degree of aggregation. Succinylation results in an active dimeric form which remains a dimer above pH 5.6.³² Con A is substantially free of carbohydrate.</p>	Spec: 5 nm Mean: 3.5-6.5 nm (monodisperse)	α -man α -glc ¹⁴
L-4645 ⁵		Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)	
L-3642 ⁵		Spec: 20 nm Mean: 17-23 nm (monodisperse)	
L-4643 ⁶	<p>Dolichos biflorus (Horse gram) Affinity purified. Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M sodium phosphate, pH 7.2, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide. Dolichos biflorus agglutinin (DBA) has anti-A₁ human blood group specificity, useful for distinguishing between A₁ and A₂ blood types. DBA has strong anti-Cad activity, and has affinity for terminal N-acetyl-α-D-galactosaminyl residues.^{33,34}</p>	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)	α -galNAc ¹⁴
L-4768 ⁷	<p>Glycine max (Soybean) Affinity purified. Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M sodium phosphate, pH 7.2, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide. Glycine max agglutinin (SBA) is not blood group specific, but has affinity for N-acetyl-D-galactosamine.³⁵</p>	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)	galNAc ¹⁴

L-2765 ⁸	<p>Helix pomatia (Roman or edible snail) Affinity purified. Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M sodium phosphate, pH 6.8, 0.1 mM Ca²⁺, 0.1 mM Mn²⁺, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide. Helix pomatia agglutinin (HPA) has anti-A human blood group specificity and has an affinity for terminal N-acetyl-α-D-galactosaminyl residues.³⁶</p>	Spec: 5 nm Mean: 3.5-6.5 nm (monodisperse)	galNAc ¹⁴
L-4770 ⁸		Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)	
L-2640 ⁸		Spec: 20 nm Mean: 17-23 nm (monodisperse)	
L-1769 ⁷	<p>Lens culinaris (Lentil) From purified lectin. Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M sodium phosphate, pH 7.2, 0.1 mM Ca²⁺, 0.1 mM Mn²⁺, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide. Lens culinaris agglutinin (LcH) is not blood group specific. It has affinity for terminal α-D-mannosyl and α-D-glucosyl residues. LcH is comprised of 2 isomers: LcH-A and LcH-B; each has a mol. wt. of 49,000. LcH-A is mitogenic.³⁷</p>	Spec: 5 nm Mean: 3.5-6.5 nm (monodisperse)	α -man ¹⁴
L-2144 ⁷		Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)	
L-1894 ⁷	<p>Triticum vulgare (Wheat germ) Affinity purified. Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M sodium phosphate, pH 7.2, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide. Wheat germ agglutinin (WGA) is not blood group specific, but has an affinity for N-acetyl-β-D-glucosaminyl residues and N-acetyl-β-D-glucosamine oligomers. WGA contains no protein-bound carbohydrate.³⁸</p>	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)	(glcNAc) ₂ ¹⁴ NeuNAc ^{14,47}
L-4893 ⁷	<p>Ulex europaeus (Gorse or Furze) UEA I Affinity purified. Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M sodium phosphate, pH 7.2, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide. Ulex europaeus agglutinin (UEA) has anti-H blood group specificity. There are 2 types of lectin: UEA I has affinity for L-fucose and UEA II has affinity for N,N'-diacetylchitobiose. The mol. wt. of UEA I was initially found to be 170,000, but later reports indicate that UEA I may form aggregates at neutral and basic pH, and that the mol. Wt. is 68,000.³⁹</p>	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)	α -L-fuc (glcNAc) ₂ ¹⁴

GOLD COLLOIDS AND GOLD CONJUGATES

GOLD-CONJUGATES OF OTHER PROTEINS (see pages 10,11, and 12)

APPEARANCE: Clear dark red liquid

EXTINCTION COEFFICIENT: Certificate of Analysis reports absorbance and gold content of product.

STABILITY/STORAGE:

Store at -20°C or at 2-8°C (depending on product) for up to 18 months.

Some of the products may be stored undiluted at -20°C, but diluted samples should not be stored below 0°C, since freezing may cause aggregation of the colloid.

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CHOOSING A PARTICLE SIZE:

Generally, particles <15 nm are most useful in transmission electron microscopy (TEM) and for applications where access to the probe may be hindered by larger particles.⁴¹ Particles >15 nm are more suitable for scanning electron microscopy (SEM), light microscopy and blotting. Sigma's gold colloids are all monodisperse (the coefficient of variance of the particle size is <15% of the mean particle size). In electron microscopy, monodisperse particles facilitate quantitation and allow for dual labeling with different particle sizes.⁴²

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR USAGE:

Gold-conjugated proteins should be diluted for most applications. It is recommended that the diluent buffer contain 0.15 M saline buffered at pH 6-8, plus 0.5% albumin and 0.05% Tween 20 to minimize background. Additional buffer supplements may be required for certain applications. Prior to application, allow the conjugate to equilibrate for at least 20 minutes in lower glycerol content. The optimum concentration of the conjugate should be determined empirically; a typical range is $A_{520}=1.0-0.05$ (1:5-1:100 dilution). Incubation times range from 0.5-12 hours.

DESCRIPTION:

Gold conjugates are processed, after adsorption with proteins, to remove free protein and large aggregates. The concentration is expressed as absorbance at the absorption maximum (A_{520}).^{4,42}

GOLD COLLOIDS AND GOLD CONJUGATES

GOLD CONJUGATES OF OTHER PROTEINS		
PRODUCT NO.	NAME - DESCRIPTION	PARTICLE SIZE
A-5179	Albumin Gold Labeled Bovine albumin (A-0281) adsorbed to colloidal gold. Suitable for use as a control. Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M Tris, pH 7.6, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide.	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)
A-5547		Spec: 5 nm Mean: 3.5-6.5 nm (monodisperse)
A-4292	Albumin-Biotin Gold Labeled Biotinamidocaproyl labeled bovine albumin (A-6043) adsorbed to colloidal gold. Useful in detection of biotinylated compounds using streptavidin as bridging protein. ¹⁵ Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M sodium phosphate, pH 7.4, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide.	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)
A-4417		Spec: 20 nm Mean: 17-23 nm (monodisperse)
E-4259	ExtrAvidin Gold Labeled ExtrAvidin, a uniquely modified avidin reagent, combines the high specific activity and sensitivity of avidin with the low background staining of streptavidin. ExtrAvidin conjugates may be used in conjunction with biotinylated reagents in the avidin/biotin labeling system. Suspension in 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M TRIS, pH 7.4, 0.02% PEG 20, 0.02% Sodium Azide	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)
H-9516	Heparin-Albumin Gold Labeled Heparin covalently linked to albumin as carrier, adsorbed to colloidal gold for detection of heparin-bonding compounds. Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M sodium phosphate, pH 7.0, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide.	Spec: 5 nm Mean: 3.5-6.5 nm (monodisperse)
H-5641		Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)
H-3278	Heparin-Albumin Gold Labeled Heparin covalently linked to albumin as a carrier, adsorbed to colloidal gold for detection of heparin-binding compounds. Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M BES, pH 7.2, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide.	Spec: 20 nm Mean: 17-23 nm (monodisperse)
L-3647	Lactoferrin Gold Labeled Lactoferrin from bovine colostrum (L-4765) coupled through spacer to albumin coated colloidal gold. Particularly useful in detection of DNA. ¹⁸ Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M BES, pH 7.0, 0.25% BSA and 0.02% sodium azide.	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)

P-0304	Peroxidase Gold Labeled Horseradish peroxidase (P-8375) coupled through spacer to albumin coated colloidal gold. ¹⁹ Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M MES, pH 6.5, 0.25% BSA. No sodium azide is added because it inhibits peroxidase activity.	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)
P-0429		Spec: 20 nm Mean: 17-23 nm (monodisperse)
P-1062	Phosphodiesterase 3':5'-Cyclic-Nucleotide Activator (Calmodulin) Gold Labeled Calmodulin from bovine brain (P-2277) coupled through PEG (M.W. 3350) spacer to albumin coated colloidal gold for the enhanced detection of calmodulin binding compounds. ²⁰ Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M BES, pH 7.0, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide.	Spec: 5 nm Mean: 3.5-6.5 nm (monodisperse)
P-1187		Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)
P-1312		Spec: 20 nm Mean: 17-23 nm (monodisperse)
P-9660	Protein A Gold Labeled Extracellular Protein A (P-6031) adsorbed to colloidal gold. ²¹ Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M sodium phosphate, pH 7.4, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide.	Spec: 5 nm Mean: 3.5-6.5 nm (monodisperse)
P-1039		Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)
P-9785		Spec: 20 nm Mean: 17-23 nm (monodisperse)
P-1546	Protein G Gold Labeled Protein G (P-9659) adsorbed to colloidal gold. ^{22,23} Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M Tris, pH 7.4, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide.	Spec: 5 nm Mean: 3.5-6.5 nm (monodisperse)
P-1671		Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)
P-1796		Spec: 20 nm Mean: 17-23 nm (monodisperse)
S-4275	Streptavidin-Albumin Gold Labeled Streptavidin (S-4762) coupled through spacer to albumin coated colloidal gold for enhanced detection of biotinylated compounds. ^{15,24} Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M BES, pH 7.4, 0.25% BSA and 0.02% sodium azide.	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)

S-2390	Streptavidin Gold Labeled Streptavidin (S-4762) adsorbed to colloidal gold. ²⁴ Suspension in 50% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M phosphate buffer, pH 7.4, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide.	Spec: 5 nm Mean: 3.5-6.5 nm (monodisperse)
S-1139		Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)
S-6514		Spec: 20 nm Mean: 17-23 nm (monodisperse)
T-2654	Trypsin Inhibitor Gold Labeled Trypsin inhibitor (ovomucoid) from chicken egg white (T-2011) adsorbed to colloidal gold. ²⁵ Suspension in 40% glycerol with 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M potassium phosphate, pH 7.2, 0.02% PEG 20 and 0.02% sodium azide.	Spec: 10 nm Mean: 8-12 nm (monodisperse)

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14. KEY TO SUGAR SPECIFICITY:
 β -gal(1-3)galNAc: 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-3-O- β -D-galactopyranosyl-D-galactopyranose
 α -man: α -D-mannose
 α -glc: α -D-glucose
galNAc: N-acetyl-D-galactosamine
(glcNAc)₂: N-acetyl-D-glucosamine dimer
NeuNAc: N-acetylneuraminic acid
 α -L-fuc: α -L-fucose
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