



(22) Date de dépôt/Filing Date: 1992/02/13
(41) Mise à la disp. pub./Open to Public Insp.: 1992/08/15
(45) Date de délivrance/Issue Date: 2004/08/24
(30) Priorités/Priorities: 1991/02/14 (20860/1991) JP;
1991/09/04 (224454/1991) JP; 1992/01/10 (3399/1992) JP

(51) Cl.Int.⁵/Int.Cl.⁵ C12N 15/18, C07K 14/475
(72) Inventeurs/Inventors:
NARUO, KEN-ICHI, JP;
SEKO, CHISAKO, JP;
KUROKAWA, TSUTOMU, JP;
KONDO, TATSUYA, JP
(73) Propriétaire/Owner:
TAKEDA CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD., JP
(74) Agent: FETHERSTONHAUGH & CO.

(54) Titre : FACTEUR D'ACTIVATION DE LA NEVROGLIE, ET SA PRODUCTION
(54) Title: GLIA ACTIVATING FACTOR AND ITS PRODUCTION

Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg Arg Arg
Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro Asn
Gly Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile
Leu Glu Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly
Val Asp Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu
Tyr Gly Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln
Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys
His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp
Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg His Gln Lys Phe
Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val Asp Pro Asp

TTG GATCATTTAA AGGGGATTCT
CAGGCGGAGG CAGCTATACT GCAGGACTGG ATTTCACTTA GAAATCTTCC
CCAATGGTAC TATCCAGGGA ACCAGGAAAG ACCACAGCCG ATTTGGCATT
CTGGAATTTA TCAGTATAGC AGTGGGCCTG GTCAGCATTG GAGGCGTGGA
CAGTGGACTC TACCTCGGGA TGAATGAGAA GGGGGAGCTG TATGGATCAG
AAAACTAAC CCAAGAGTGT GTATTCAGAG AACAGTTCGA AGAAAACTGG
TATAATACGT ACTCGTCAAA CCTATATAAG CACGTGGACA CTGGAAGGCG
ATACTATGTT GCATTAAATA AAGATGGGAC CCCGAGAGAA GGGACTAGGA
CTAAACGGCA CCAGAAATTC ACACATTTTT TACCTAGACC AGTGGACCCC GAC.

(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

Disclosed are (1) a novel glia activating factor which has glial cell growth promoting activity; (2) a glia activating factor containing a polypeptide represented by the following amino acid sequence: (see above image); or a mutein thereof having activity of the factor: (3) a DNA containing a following polynucleotide coding for a glia activating factor: (see above image) (4) a host transformed with a vector containing the DNA described in (3); and (5) a method for producing the above glia activating factor which comprises cultivating the transformant described in (4) in a medium, accumulating the glia activating factor in a culture broth, and collecting the resulting glia activating factor.



TITLE: GLIA ACTIVATING FACTOR AND ITS PRODUCTION

ABSTRACT

Disclosed are (1) a novel glia activating factor which has glial cell growth promoting activity; (2) a glia activating factor containing a polypeptide represented by the following amino acid sequence:

Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg Arg Arg
Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro Asn
Gly Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile
Leu Glu Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly
Val Asp Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu
Tyr Gly Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln
Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys
His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp
Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg His Gln Lys Phe
Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val Asp Pro Asp ;

or a mutein thereof having activity of the factor:

(3) a DNA containing a following polynucleotide coding for a glia activating factor:

TTG GATCATTTAA AGGGGATTCT
CAGGCGGAGG CAGCTATACT GCAGGACTGG ATTTCACTTA GAAATCTTCC
CCAATGGTAC TATCCAGGGA ACCAGGAAAG ACCACAGCCG ATTTGGCATT
CTGGAATTTA TCAGTATAGC AGTGGGCCTG GTCAGCATTC GAGGCGTGGA
CAGTGGACTC TACCTCGGGA TGAATGAGAA GGGGGAGCTG TATGGATCAG
AAAAACTAAC CCAAGAGTGT GTATTCAGAG AACAGTTCGA AGAAAACTGG
TATAATACGT ACTCGTCAAA CCTATATAAG CACGTGGACA CTGGAAGGCG
ATACTATGTT GCATTAAATA AAGATGGGAC CCCGAGAGAA GGGACTAGGA
CTAAACGGCA CCAGAAATTC ACACATTTTTT TACCTAGACC AGTGGACCCC GAC.

(4) a host transformed with a vector containing the DNA described in (3); and (5) a method for producing the above glia activating factor which comprises cultivating the transformant described in (4) in a medium, accumulating the glia activating factor in a culture broth, and collecting the resulting glia activating factor.

GLIA ACTIVATING FACTOR AND ITS PRODCUTION

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a glia activating
5 factor, a novel polypeptide, which is obtained from glioma
cell culture solution and exhibits growth promoting
activity against glial cells, fibroblasts and the like, a
DNA coding for the glia activating factor, and a
recombinant DNA for the preparation of the glia activating
10 factor.

Various growth factors have been discovered, studied
and utilized [Cellular & Molecular Biology, edited by The
Japanese Tissue Culture Association, Asakura Shoten
(1987)]. Such cell growth factors include epidermal growth
15 factor (EGF), platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF), acidic
fibroblast growth factor (aFGF) and basic fibroblast growth
factor (bFGF). All of these factors have been isolated
based upon growth promotion of fibroblast cells. However,
these factors have also been found to display widely
20 ranging activity and poor specificity. Accordingly, recent
attempts have been made to search for growth factors
specifically acting on functionally differentiated cells.
As a result, growth factors such as keratinocyte growth
factor (KGF) and hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) have been
25 isolated, thus creating the possibility that these factors
could be used to treat diseases vulnerable to their
specific action spectra.

Encephalopathy of old age, particularly dementia, has

been found to result from known disorders, such as injury-provoked cerebral nerve cell death, and from unknown disorders. Because cerebral nerve cells cease to proliferate immediately after birth and thereafter gradually decrease in number, there is no natural mechanism by which to repair damaged cerebral nerve cell or add new cerebral nerve cells at any significant rate. Thus, restoration of cerebral nerve cell activity requires artificial stimuli.

10 Glial cells, classified according to their form and function as either Type I or II astrocyte, or oligodendrocyte, surround and support the survival of cerebral nerve cells. The activation of these glial cells results in the activation and retention of the cerebral

15 nerve cells. Such activation and retention is an important measure for improvement in an encephalopathologic condition. Despite extensive research into the identification of the neurotrophic factor released by glial cells, no decisive factor has been discovered as yet.

20 Accordingly, research has focused upon the activation of the glial cells and the growth factors acting on those glial cells.

As described above, the identification and isolation of growth factors acting on the glial cells have been

25 researched, in order to exploit their ability to activate cerebral nerve cells, and PDGF and FGF have been known to exhibit growth promoting activity also against the glial cells. However, the specificity of these factors is so

poor that they exhibit strong strong growth promoting activity against other types of cells. Accordingly, they have not been able to be satisfactorily used as drugs. In sum, the prior art had not successfully identified a factor
5 which strongly and specifically activated glial cells, and thus did not provide a drug capable of treating encephalopathy.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In the course of their research, the present inventors
10 discovered a growth promoting factor which not only activates glial cells but is also produced by glial cells. However, large scale production of this factor has been hindered for two reasons. First, their inability to proliferate renders impossible the large scale collection
15 of glial cells from humans. Second, there is no known technique by which a few glial cells can be retained and cultivated. Therefore, a substitute substrate for the glial cell was required.

Faced with these problems, the present inventors began
20 work with glioma cells. Because glioma cell lines have the characteristics of normal glial cells, they were believed to be an adequate substitute substrate. Using the glioma cells, the present inventors were able to isolate and purify the above cited glial activating factor
25 (hereinafter, "GAF").

Although use of glioma cells is suitable for the isolation and purification of GAF, their use for the large scale production of GAF is not. The present inventors

found that the amount of GAF obtained from the human glioma cells is very slight. Therefore, prohibitive amounts of time and labor are required for cultivation of a large amount of glioma cells to obtain the GAF in amounts
5 sufficient to use as a drug or a material for research. To increase production of GAF, the present inventors examined a method comprising cloning a polynucleotide coding for the GAF and applying the cloned polynucleotide to a recombinant DNA technique recently developed using the
10 polynucleotide.

In furtherance of this proposed method, the amino acid sequence of the N-terminal side of GAF was analyzed, and oligonucleotide probes based on this sequence were synthesized. Screening was performed for cDNA libraries
15 prepared from mRNA of human glioma cell NMC-G1 or of human foreskin-derived primary culture cells, using the above-mentioned probe, and human GAF cDNA was cloned. Finally, human GAF was produced by constructing an expression plasmid containing this cDNA and cultivating transformants
20 transformed with this plasmid.

In accordance with the present invention, there are provided (1) a glia activating factor which is a protein obtained from a glioma cell culture solution and having glial cell growth promoting activity; (2) the above-
25 mentioned glia activating factor in which the glioma cell is a human glioma cell; (3) a glia activating factor containing a polypeptide represented by the following amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:1):

27580-73

- 5 -

Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg Arg Arg
 Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro Asn
 Gly Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile
 Leu Glu Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly
 5 Val Asp Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu
 Tyr Gly Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln
 Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys
 His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp
 Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg His Gln Lys Phe
 10 Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val Asp Pro Asp

or a mutein thereof having activity of the factor;

(4) The glia activating factor according to the above (3)
 in which the polypeptide is represented by the following
 amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:2(n=0), SEQ ID NO:3(n=1)):

15 (Met)_n-X₁-Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg Arg Arg Gln
 Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro Asn Gly
 Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile Leu
 Glu Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly Val
 Asp Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu Tyr
 20 Gly Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln Phe
 Glu Glu Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys His
 Val Asp Thr Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp Gly
 Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg His Gln Lys Phe Thr
 His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val Asp Pro Asp-X₂

25 wherein n is 0 or 1; X₁ represents Ala Pro Leu Gly Glu Val
 Gly Asn Tyr Phe Gly Val Gln Asp Ala Val Pro Phe Gly Asn Val
 Pro Val Leu Pro Val Asp Ser Pro Val Leu Leu Ser Asp His Leu
 Gly Gln Ser Glu Ala Gly Gly Leu Pro Arg Gly Pro Ala Val Thr

27580-73

- 6 -

Asp or a fragment thereof; and X_2 represents Lys Val Pro Glu Leu Tyr Lys Asp Ile Leu Ser Gln Ser or a fragment thereof.

- (5) The glia activating factor according to the above (3) in which the polypeptide is represented by the following amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:4($n=0$, X_3 =Ala Pro); SEQ ID NO:5($n=0$, X_3 =Leu Gly ... Leu Leu); SEQ ID NO:6($n=1$, X_3 =Ala Pro); SEQ ID NO:7($n=1$, X_3 =Leu Gly ... Leu Leu):
- (Met) n X_3 Ser Asp His Leu Gly Gln Ser Glu Ala Gly Gly Leu
- 10 Pro Arg Gly Pro Ala Val Thr Asp Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile
 Leu Arg Arg Arg Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu
 Ile Phe Pro Asn Gly Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser
 Arg Phe Gly Ile Leu Glu Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val
 Ser Ile Arg Gly Val Asp Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu
 15 Lys Gly Glu Leu Tyr Gly Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val
 Phe Arg Glu Gln Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser
 Asn Leu Tyr Lys His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala
 Leu Asn Lys Asp Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg
 His Gln Lys Phe Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val Asp Pro Asp
 20 Lys Val Pro Glu Leu Tyr Lys Asp Ile Leu Ser Gln Ser

wherein n is 0 or 1; and X_3 represents Ala Pro; or Leu Gly Glu Val Gly Asn Tyr Phe Gly Val Gln Asp Ala Val Pro Phe Gly Asn Val Pro Val Leu Pro Val Asp Ser Pro Val Leu Leu or a fragment thereof.

- 25 (6) The glial activating factor according to the above (5) in which the polypeptide is represented by the following amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 8(X_1' =Met); SEQ ID NO: 9(X_1' =Met Ala Pro)):

X₁' X₂' Ser Asp His Leu Gly Gln Ser Glu Ala Gly Gly Leu Pro
 Arg Gly Pro Ala Val Thr Asp Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu
 Arg Arg Arg Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile
 Phe Pro Asn Gly Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg
 5 Phe Gly Ile Leu Glu Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser
 Ile Arg Gly Val Asp Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys
 Gly Glu Leu Tyr Gly Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe
 Arg Glu Gln Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn
 Leu Tyr Lys His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu
 10 Asn Lys Asp Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg His
 Gln Lys Phe Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val Asp Pro Asp Lys
 Val Pro Glu Leu Tyr Lys Asp Ile Leu Ser Gln Ser

wherein X₁' represents Met; or Met Ala Pro; and X₂'

represents Leu Gly Glu Val Gly Asn Tyr Phe Gly Val Gln Asp

15 Ala Val Pro Phe Gly Asn Val Pro Val Leu Pro Val Asp Ser Pro
 Val Leu Leu or a fragment thereof,

(7) a DNA containing a polynucleotide coding for a glial
 activating factor;

(8) the DNA described in (7) in which the polynucleotide
 20 contains the following nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:10):

TTG GATCATTTAA AGGGGATTCT
 CAGGCGGAGG CAGCTATACT GCAGGACTGG ATTTCACTTA GAAATCTTCC
 CCAATGGTAC TATCCAGGGA ACCAGGAAAG ACCACAGCCG ATTTGGCATT
 CTGGAATTTA TCAGTATAGC AGTGGGCCTG GTCAGCATTC GAGGCGTGGA
 25 CAGTGGACTC TACCTCGGGA TGAATGAGAA GGGGGAGCTG TATGGATCAG
 AAAAATAAC CCAAGAGTGT GTATTCAGAG AACAGTTCGA AGAAAATACTGG
 TATAATACGT ACTCGTCAAA CCTATATAAG CACGTGGACA CTGGAAGGCG
 ATACTATGTT GCATTAAATA AAGATGGGAC CCCGAGAGAA GGGACTAGGA

CTAAACGGCA CCAGAAATTC ACACATTTTT TACCTAGACC AGTGGACCCC GAC

(9) The DNA described in (7) in which the polynucleotide is represented by the following nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID

NO:11):

Y_1 -TTG GATCATTTAA AGGGGATTCT

5 CAGGCGGAGG CAGCTATACT GCAGGACTGG ATTTCACTTA GAAATCTTCC
 CCAATGGTAC TATCCAGGGA ACCAGGAAAG ACCACAGCCG ATTTGGCATT
 CTGGAATTTA TCAGTATAGC AGTGGGCCTG GTCAGCATTC GAGGCGTGGA
 CAGTGGACTC TACCTCGGGA TGAATGAGAA GGGGGAGCTG TATGGATCAG
 AAAAATAAC CCAAGAGTGT GTATTCAGAG AACAGTTCGA AGAAAATCTG
 10 TATAATACGT ACTCGTCAAA CCTATATAAG CACGTGGACA CTGGAAGGCG
 ATACTATGTT GCATTAAATA AAGATGGGAC CCCGAGAGAA GGGACTAGGA
 CTAAACGGCA CCAGAAATTC ACACATTTTT TACCTAGACC AGTGGACCCC
 GAC- Y_2

wherein Y_1 represents GCTCCCTTA GGTGAAGTTG GGAATATTT

15 CGGTGTGCAG GATGCGGTAC CGTTTGGGAA TGTGCCCGTG TTGCCGGTGG
 ACAGCCCGGT TTTGTAAAGT GACCACCTGG GTCAGTCCGA AGCAGGGGGG
 CTCCCCAGGG GACCCGCAGT CACGGAC or a fragment thereof; and Y_2
 represents AAAGTAC CTGAACTGTA TAAGGATATT CTAAGCCAAA GT or a
 fragment thereof,

20 or a nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:12) having an
 initiation codon ATG at the 5'-terminus thereof;

(10) The DNA described in (7) in which the polynucleotide is represented by the following nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID

NO: 13):

Y_3 -AGT GACCACCTGG GTCAGTCCGA

25 AGCAGGGGGG CTCCCCAGGG GACCCGCAGT CACGGACTTG GATCATTTAA
 AGGGGATTCT CAGGCGGAGG CAGCTATACT GCAGGACTGG ATTTCACTTA
 GAAATCTTCC CCAATGGTAC TATCCAGGGA ACCAGGAAAG ACCACAGCCG
 ATTTGGCATT CTGGAATTTA TCAGTATAGC AGTGGGCCTG GTCAGCATTC

GAGGCGTGGA CAGTGGACTC TACCTCGGGA TGAATGAGAA GGGGGAGCTG
TATGGATCAG AAAAATAAC CCAAGAGTGT GTATTCAGAG AACAGTTCGA
AGAAAATGG TATAATACGT ACTCGTCAAA CCTATATAAG CACGTGGACA
CTGGAAGGCG ATACTATGTT GCATTAAATA AAGATGGGAC CCCGAGAGAA
5 GGGACTAGGA CTAAACGGCA CCAGAAATTC ACACATTTTTT TACCTAGACC
AGTGGACCCC GACAAAGTAC CTGAACTGTA TAAGGATATT CTAAGCCAAA GT
wherein Y_3 represents GCTCCCTTA GGTGAAGTTG GGAACATTTT
CGGTGTGCAG GATGCGGTAC CGTTTGGGAA TGTGCCCCGTG TTGCCGGTGG
ACAGCCCGGT TTTGTTA or a fragment thereof,

- 10 or a nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:14) having an
initiation codon ATG at the 5'-terminus thereof;
(11) The DNA described in (10) in which the polynucleotide
is represented by the following nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID
NO:15):

15 Y'-AGT GACCACCTGG GTCAGTCCGA AGCAGGGGGG CTCCCCAGGG
GACCCGCAGT CACGGACTTG GATCATTTAA AGGGGATTCT CAGGCGGAGG
CAGCTATACT GCAGGACTGG ATTTCACTTA GAAATCTTCC CCAATGGTAC
TATCCAGGGA ACCAGGAAAG ACCACAGCCG ATTTGGCATT CTGGAATTTA
TCAGTATAGC AGTGGGCCTG GTCAGCATTC GAGGCGTGGA CAGTGGACTC
20 TACCTCGGGA TGAATGAGAA GGGGGAGCTG TATGGATCAG AAAAATAAC
CCAAGAGTGT GTATTCAGAG AACAGTTCGA AGAAAATGG TATAATACGT
ACTCGTCAAA CCTATATAAG CACGTGGACA CTGGAAGGCG ATACTATGTT
GCATTAAATA AAGATGGGAC CCCGAGAGAA GGGACTAGGA CTAAACGGCA
CCAGAAATTC ACACATTTTTT TACCTAGACC AGTGGACCCC GACAAAGTAC
25 CTGAACTGTA TAAGGATATT CTAAGCCAAA

wherein Y' represents AT GGCTCCCTTA GGTGAAGTTG GGAACATTTT
CGGTGTGCAG GATGCGGTAC CGTTTGGGAA TGTGCCCCGTG TTGCCGGTGG
ACAGCCCGGT TTTGTTA or a fragment thereof.

27580-73

- 10 -

(12) a transformant transformed with a vector containing the DNA described in (7); and

(13) a method for preparing the above glia activating factor comprising cultivating the transformant described in

5 (12) in a medium, accumulating the glia activating factor in a culture product to form an accumulated product, and collecting the resulting accumulated glia activating factor.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

10 Fig. 1 shows elution patterns of protein and activity on heparin-Sepharose (registered trade mark) CL-6B column (Example 1-(2), step 1);

Fig. 2 shows elution patterns of protein and activity on Sephacryl S-200 HR column (Example 1-(2), step 3);

15 Fig. 3 shows elution patterns of protein and activity on heparin-Sepharose (registered trade mark) CL-6B column (Example 1-(2), step 4);

Fig. 4 shows elution patterns of protein and activity on HR-894* heparin affinity high performance liquid (Example
20 1-(2), step 5);

Fig. 5 shows protein and activity elution patterns by Vydac C4* high performance liquid (Example 1-(2), step 6);

Fig. 6 is an SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis diagram of a purified glia activating factor (derived from
25 NMC-G1);

Fig. 7 is a graph showing growth promoting activity of the purified glia activating factor to glial cells;

Fig. 8 is a graph showing growth promoting activity of

*Trade-mark

the NMC-G1-derived purified glia growth activating factor to the glial cells, which is assayed again after purification using reversed phase high performance liquid chromatography;

5 Fig. 9 is a graph showing increases in glial cell number by the glia activating factor (derived from NMC-G1);

 Fig. 10 is a graph showing time course of tritium thymidine incorporation into the glial cells by the glia activating factor (derived from NMC-G1), wherein -●-
10 indicates a group to which GAF is added and -O- indicates a control group to which GAF is not added;

 Fig. 11 is a graph showing growth promoting activity of the purified glia activating factor (derived from NMC-G1) upon fibroblast mouse BALB/3T3 clone A31 cells;

15 Fig. 12 is a graph showing growth promoting activity of the purified glia activating factor (derived from NMC-G1) upon mouse BALB/3T3 clone A31 cells, which is assayed again after purification using reversed phase high performance liquid chromatography;

20 Fig. 13 is a graph showing growth promoting activity of the purified glia activating factor (derived from NMC-G1) upon human umbilical vascular endothelial cells;

 Fig. 14 is a graph showing tritium thymidine incorporation promoting activity of the purified glia
25 activating factor (derived from NMC-G1) upon rat adrenal melanocytoma-derived PC-12 cells;

 Fig. 15 is a graph showing heat and acid stabilities of glia activating factor (derived from NMC-G1);

Fig. 16 is a diagram showing the immunological cross reaction of the glia activating factor (derived from NMC-G1) with aFGF and bFGF;

Fig. 17 is a diagram showing stained GAF (derived from
5 NMC-G1) using biotinyl concanavalin A, avidin and biotinyl peroxidase;

Fig. 18 is a diagram showing results of N-glycanase treatment of GAF (derived from NMC-G1);

Fig. 19 shows a nucleotide sequence of GAF cDNA and an
10 amino acid sequence deduced therefrom;

Fig. 20 is graphs showing results obtained by expressing pGAF1 in COS-7 cells and assaying growth promoting activity thereof upon the glial cells;

Fig. 21 is a schematic representation showing the
15 construction of plasmid pDGAF1;

Fig. 22 is graphs showing GAF activity contained in a culture supernatant of methotrexate-resistant CHO cells;

Fig. 23 is a schematic representation showing the construction of plasmid pETGAF1;

20 Fig. 24 is a diagram showing rhGAF contained in an extract of MM294(DE3)/pLysS,pETGAF1 which is stained by Western Blotting method;

Fig. 25 shows a protein elution pattern on hydrophobic column (Example 7-(3), step 2);

25 Fig. 26 shows a protein elution pattern on heparin affinity high performance liquid chromatography (Example 8-(3), step 3);

Fig. 27 shows an SDS polyacrylamide gel

electrophoresis diagram of a purified rhGAF;

Fig. 28 is a diagram showing the purified rhGAF stained by Western Blotting method;

Fig. 29 is a graph showing growth promoting activity of the purified rhGAF upon the glial cells;

Fig. 30 is a graph showing growth promoting activity of the purified rhGAF upon mouse BALB/3T3 clone A31 cells;

Fig. 31 is a graph showing growth promoting activity of the purified rhGAF upon rat vascular smooth muscle cells;

Fig. 32 is a graph showing activity of the purified rhGAF upon the proliferation of human umbilical vascular endothelial cells;

Fig. 33 is a graph showing activity of the purified rhGAF upon the proliferation of mouse bone marrow cells; and

Fig. 34 is a graph showing activity of the purified rhGAF upon the proliferation of megakaryocytes in the mouse bone marrow cells.

20 DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

In accordance with the present invention, there is provided GAF, which is a protein isolated from a culture supernatant obtained by culturing the human-derived glioma cells or the transformant having GAF coding DNA and having the growth promoting activity to glial cells and fibroblasts.

GAF obtainable from glioma cells further has the following characteristics:

(a) Heparin affinity (it is eluted from a heparin-Sephadex column at a saline concentration of 0.4 to 0.9 M).

(b) Molecular weight: this factor includes three kinds of molecular species having molecular weights of about 25,000, about 29,000 and about 30,000, as measured by SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis.

(c) Activity stability: the activity is lost by heat treatment at 100°C for 5 minutes, and partially lost by treatment at pH 2 for 30 minutes.

(d) Antigenicity: this factor does not exhibit the any immunological cross reaction with platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF), acidic fibroblast growth factor (aFGF) and basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF).

(e) Biological activity: This factor displays growth promoting activity upon glial cells, fibroblasts and rat pheochromocytoma PC-12 cells.

GAF obtained from glioma cell includes three kinds of molecular species having molecular weights of about 25,000, about 29,000 and about 30,000, respectively with each species being derived from the same gene. It is found that each has equivalent biological activity.

According to the present invention, there is further provided a method for preparing the GAF comprising culturing the human-derived glioma cells or the transformant described above, collecting the GAF from a culture supernatant thereof, and purifying the collected GAF.

The cell culture supernatant for obtaining GAF can be prepared by culture of glioma cells, for example, human glioma cell NMC-G1. Any method of culture such as stationary culture, roller bottle culture, cell factory or
5 suspension culture may be used for culture of glioma cells. In preferred embodiments of the present invention, roller bottle culture is the preferred method. In this manner, media for culture of animal cells such as MEM medium [Science, 122, 501 (1952)], DMEM medium [Virology,
10 8, 396 (1959)], RPMI1640 medium [Journal of the American Medical Association, 199, 519 (1967)] and 199 medium [Proceeding of the Society for the Biological Medicine, 73,
1 (1950)] is used for cultivation. Preferably, DMEM medium is used. These media may be supplemented with up to about
15 20%, preferably about 5 to 20%, fetal calf serum. The pH is preferably about 6 to 8. The culture is carried out at 30 to 40°C, preferably at 37°C, for about 24 to 100 hours, with medium exchange if necessary.

The separation and purification of GAF protein from
20 the above-mentioned culture supernatant can be carried out by appropriate combinations of well-known separating and purifying methods. These known separating and purifying methods include methods utilizing a difference in solubility such as salting-out and solvent precipitation,
25 methods mainly utilizing a difference in molecular weight such as dialysis, ultrafiltration, gel filtration and SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, methods utilizing a difference in electric charge such as ion-exchange

27580-73

- 16 -

chromatography and isoelectro-focussing electrophoresis, methods utilizing a difference in specific affinity such as affinity chromatography, and methods utilizing a difference in hydrophobicity such as reverse phase high performance
5 liquid chromatography.

Preferred methods of separation of GAF protein utilize chromatographic techniques whereby after removal of precipitated impurities by centrifugation, the above-mentioned culture solution is subjected to heparin-
10 Sepharose chromatography to adsorb and elute GAF protein so that the protein can be efficiently concentrated and purified.

Gel filtration using Sephacryl^{*} S-200 or the like is also effective for purification of GAF protein. In
15 preferred embodiments, an eluate containing GAF protein concentrated by a heparin-Sepharose column is further concentrated by use of ultrafiltration or the like, and subjected to chromatography using a Sephacryl^{*} S-200 column to elute GAF protein with a buffer solution.

20 Column chromatography with an acidic resin such as CM cellulose is also effective separation and purification technique. In preferred embodiments, a sample dialyzed against a weak acidic buffer is loaded onto a column chromatography equilibrated with the same buffer, and
25 linear gradient elution can be accomplished by use of a salt such as NaCl.

Affinity chromatography via heparin-Sepharose is very effective. For example, a GAF protein-containing solution

*Trade-mark

27580-73

- 17 -

is loaded onto a heparin-Sepharose* column equilibrated with a nearly neutral buffer such as Tris hydrochloric acid or Tris phosphoric acid, and the column is thoroughly washed. Then, linear gradient elution is accomplished by use of a
5 salt such as NaCl, whereby GAF protein can be eluted.

In particular, heparin columns for high performance liquid chromatography (for example, Shodex*AF pak HR-894, Showa Denko K. K., Japan) are effective, and can be utilized in a manner similar to the above-mentioned
10 heparin-Sepharose* column.

GAF protein can also be purified by the reverse phase high performance liquid chromatography which gives excellent results on purification of many proteins. For example, a sample solution containing 0.1% trifluoroacetic
15 acid is loaded onto the column, and elution can be made by a gradient of acetonitrile added to 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid.

GAF protein can be obtained as a homogeneous sample by appropriate combinations of the procedures described above.

20 The use of a trace amount of detergent in the purification process or the storage process is suitable for preventing a sample from being adsorbed to a chromatography resin or a vessel. Preferred detergents include 3-[(3-chloramidopropyl)dimethylammonio]-1-propanesulfonate
25 (CHAPS), NP-40* and Triton* X100. In certain embodiments of the present invention, CHAPS is preferred.

GAF protein in the culture supernatant and in the solutions of the purification process can be assayed for

*Trade-mark

growth promoting activity based upon the uptake of ^3H -thymidine by primary culture glial cells isolated from the brain of a rat fetus (19 days after fertilization) or by BALB/c3T3 cells.

5 The resulting purified sample may also be dialyzed and lyophilized to form a dried powder. Further, serum albumin is also suitably added thereto to assist in the sample's storage.

10 Using the purified sample, the sugar chain structure of GAF protein can be examined. For this purpose, blotting experiments using lectin as a probe or digestion experiments with sugar chain degrading enzymes can be utilized.

15 Upon obtaining a purified sample, the N-terminal side amino acid sequence can be examined directly with an amino acid sequencer. Furthermore, after degradation of the purified sample with proteinases such as trypsin, lysyl-end peptidase and V8 protease, the resulting peptide fragments are separated using reverse phase high performance liquid
20 chromatography, and the amino acid sequence for each sequence can be examined to get information of the amino acid sequences in the inner part of the protein.

25 The use of an automatic amino acid sequencer (for example, Model 470A, Applied Biosystems, U.S.A.) is particularly effective for determination of the amino acid sequence.

 The nucleotide sequence is deduced based on the resulting amino acid sequence, and the oligonucleotide

which can be used for cloning of cDNA coding for GAF protein, is synthesized.

The cDNA thus obtained is expressed in organisms such as Escherichia coli, Bacillus subtilis and yeast, wherein
5 the GAF protein can be obtained more easily. Animal culture cells are also used as expression hosts and are very suitable hosts when activity or stability requirements dictate that a sugar moiety of the GAF protein be used.

Use of the above described genetic engineering
10 techniques provides for the easy mass production of GAF proteins.

When GAF is obtained by such genetic engineering techniques, amino acid sequences thereof sometimes differ from each other, such as a lack or substitution of amino
15 acid(s), due to a difference in hosts or due to a mutation. Such proteins which have different amino acid sequences are contemplated as being within the scope of the present invention as long as they have GAF-activity.

Furthermore, because molecular species having slightly
20 different N-terminal amino acid sequences as nonetheless found to coexist in GAF preparation purified from a culture supernatant of glioma cells and their specific activities are nearly the same, it is possible to delete part of the amino acid sequence of GAF, add another sequence thereto,
25 or substitute within the sequence without the loss of biological activity. Thus, the present invention also provides mutant proteins which are more stable to heat or acid and can be easily prepared by these genetic

engineering techniques.

In accordance with the present invention, an expression vector containing the DNA having the nucleotide sequence coding for GAF polypeptide can be prepared, for
5 example, by the following process:

(a) GAF is isolated and purified from a culture supernatant, and the amino acid sequence on the N-terminal side is analyzed,

(b) Based on the resulting amino acid sequence, an
10 oligonucleotide probe coding for it is synthesized,

(c) RNA coding for the GAF is extracted from the cells,

(d) Single stranded complementary DNA (cDNA) is synthesized from the mRNA, followed by synthesis of double
15 stranded complementary DNA,

(e) The complementary DNA is introduced into a phage vector or a plasmid,

(f) The recombinant phage or plasmid thus obtained is introduced into an appropriate host cell to produce a
20 transformant,

(g) After cultivation of the transformant thus obtained, the plasmid or the phage containing the desired DNA is isolated from the transformant by an appropriate method such as hybridization using the DNA probe,

25 (h) The desired cloned DNA is cut out from the recombinant DNA, and

(i) The cloned DNA or a portion thereof is ligated downstream from a promoter in a vector suitable for

expression.

The mRNA coding for the human GAF can be obtained from various GAF-producing cells such as human glioma cells and human fibroblasts. The human glioma cells include NMC-G1,
5 and the human fibroblasts include WI-38 (ATCC No.: CCL-75).

The above-mentioned cell NMC-G1 was deposited with the Institute for Fermentation, Osaka, Japan (IFO) under the accession number IFO 50281 on October 31, 1990, and with the Fermentation Research Institute (FRI), Agency of
10 Industrial Science and Technology, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, 1-3, Higashi 1-chome, Tsukuba-shi Ibaraki-Ken Japan under the accession number FERM BP-3294 on February 21, 1991. WI-38 is cited in Catalogue of Cell Lines & Hybridomas, 5th edition,
15 published by the American Type Culture Collection (1985).

Methods for preparing the RNA from the GAF-producing cells include the guanidine thiocyanate method [J. M. Chirgwin et al., Biochemistry, 18, 5294 (1979)] and the like.

20 Using the mRNA thus obtained as a template, cDNA is synthesized and then introduced into the plasmid or the phage by use of reverse transcriptase, for example, in accordance with the method of H. Okayama et al. [Molecular and Cellular Biology, 2, 161 (1982) and ibid. 3, 280
25 (1983)].

The plasmids into which the cDNA is introduced include, for example, pBR322 [Gene, 2, 95 (1977)], pBR325 [Gene 4, 121 (1978)], pUC12 [Gene, 19, 259 (1982)], pUC13

[Gene, 19, 259 (1982)], pUC118 and pUC119, each derived from E. coli, and pUB110 derived from Bacillus subtilis [Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communication, 112, 678 (1983)]. However, any other plasmid can be used as
5 long as it is replicable and viable in the host.

Methods for introducing the cDNA into the plasmid include, for example, the method described in T. Maniatis et al., Molecular Cloning, p.239, Cold Spring Laboratory, (1982). Methods for introducing the cDNA into the phage
10 vector include, for example, the method of T. V. Hyunh et al. [DNA Cloning, A Practical Approach, 1, 49 (1985)].

The plasmids into which the above-mentioned cDNA is introduced may be obtained by introducing the cDNA prepared from human normal diploid cell mRNA into a vector such as
15 pCD vector [see Okayama et al., Molecular Cell Biology, 3, 280 (1983)].

The plasmid into which cDNA has been introduced is introduced into appropriate host cells such as cells belong to Escherichia and Bacillus.

20 Examples of the cells belong to Escherichia described above include E. coli K12DH1 [Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 60, 160 (1968)], M103 [Nucleic Acids Research, 9, 309 (1981)], JA221 [Journal of Molecular Biology, 120, 517, (1978)], HB101 [Journal of Molecular Biology, 41, 459
25 (1969)] and C600 [Genetics, 39, 440 (1954)].

Examples of the cells belong to Bacillus described above include Bacillus subtilis MI114 [Gene, 24, 255 (1983)] and 207-21 [Journal of Biochemistry, 95, 87

(1984)]].

Methods for transforming the host with the plasmid include, for example, the calcium chloride method and the calcium chloride/rubidium chloride method described in T. Maniatis et al., Molecular Cloning, p.249, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, (1982).

Desired clones are selected from the transformants thus obtained by using methods known per se in the art such as the colony hybridization method [Gene, 10, 63 (1980)], and the DNA nucleotide sequence determination methods [Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 74, 560 (1977); Nucleic Acids Research, 9, 309 (1981)].

Thus, a cloned microorganism is obtained which contains the vector having the DNA containing the nucleotide sequence coding for GAF.

The plasmid having the cDNA coding for the above-mentioned GAF can be used as is or after digestion with a restriction enzyme if desired, depending on the intended purpose.

The region intended to be expressed is cut out from the cloned cDNA and ligated downstream from a promoter in a vehicle (vector) suitable for expression, whereby the expression vector can be obtained.

The vectors include the above plasmids derived from E. coli such as pBR322, pBR325, pUC12 and pUC13, plasmids derived from Bacillus subtilis such as pUB110, pTP5 and pC194, plasmids derived from yeast such as pSH19 and pSH15, bacteriophages such as λ phage, and animal viruses such as

retroviruses and vaccinia viruses.

The cDNA may have ATG as a translation initiating codon at the 5'-terminus thereof, and TAA, TGA or TAG as a translation terminating codon at the 3'-terminus thereof.

5 These codons may be added by use of an appropriate synthetic DNA adaptor. A promoter is further ligated upstream therefrom to express the DNA.

In accordance with the present invention, any promoter may be used as long as it is suitable for expression in the
10 host cell selected for the gene expression.

When the host cell used for transformation is Escherichia, it is preferable that a T7 promoter, a trp promoter, a lac promoter, a recA promoter, a λ PL promoter, or an lpp promoter is used. When the host cell is
15 Bacillus, it is preferable that an SP01 promoter, an SP02 promoter, or a penP promoter is used. When the host cell is yeast, it is preferable that a PH05 promoter, a PGK promoter, a GAP promoter or an ADH promoter is used. In preferred embodiments of the present invention, the host
20 cell is Escherichia and the promoter is the T7 promoter or the trp promoter.

When the host cell is an animal cell, a SV40-derived promoter, a retrovirus promoter or the like can be used. The SV40-derived promoter is preferred.

25 By using a vector containing the DNA coding for GAF thus constructed, the transformant is prepared.

Examples of the host cells include Escherichia, Bacillus, yeast and animal cells.

Examples of the above-mentioned Escherichia and Bacillus include strains similar to those described above.

Examples of the above-mentioned yeast include Saccharomyces cerevisiae AH22R⁻, NA87-11A and DKD-5D.

5 Specific examples of the above-mentioned animal cells include monkey cell COS-7, Vero, Chinese hamster cell (CHO), mouse L cell and human FL cell.

10 The transformation of Escherichia described above is conducted, for example, according to the method described in Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 69, 2110 (1972), Gene, 17, 107 (1982) or the like.

The transformation of Bacillus is carried out, for example, according to the method described in Molecular & General Genetics, 168, 111 (1979) or the like.

15 The transformation of yeast is performed, for example, according to the method described in Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 75, 1929 (1978).

20 The transformation of animal cells is carried out, for example, according to the method described in Virology, 52, 456 (1973).

Thus, the transformant transformed with the expression vector containing the cDNA coding for GAF is obtained.

25 Examples thereof include E. coli K12 DH1/pGAF1 obtained in Example 5 described below. This organism was deposited with the IFO under the accession number IFO 15217 on August 28, 1991, and with the FRI under the accession number FERM BP-3547 on September 2, 1991.

Further, E. coli MM294(DE3)/pLySS,pETGAF1 obtained in

Example 8 was deposited with the IFO under the accession number IFO 15248 on December 3, 1991, and with the FRI under the accession number FERM BP-3689 on December 24, 1991. When bacterial transformants are cultivated, a liquid medium is typically used for cultivation. Carbon sources, nitrogen sources, inorganic compounds and other nutrients necessary for growth of the transformants are contained therein. Examples of the carbon sources include glucose, dextrin, soluble starch and sucrose. Examples of the nitrogen sources include inorganic or organic materials such as ammonium salts, nitrates, corn steep liquor, peptone, casein, meat extracts, soybean meal and potato extract solution. The inorganic compounds include, for example, calcium chloride, sodium dihydrogenphosphate and magnesium chloride. Yeast, vitamins and growth promoting factors may be further added.

The pH of the medium is preferably about 5 to about 8.

When the Escherichia transformants are cultivated, M9 medium containing glucose and Casamino Acids [Miller, Journal of Experiments in Molecular Genetics, 431-433, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York (1972)] is preferably used to cultivate the transformants. In order to allow the promoters to act more efficiently, for example, drugs such as 3 β -indolyl acrylic acid may be added thereto if necessary.

The Escherichia transformants are usually cultivated at about 15 to 43°C for about 3 to 24 hours with aeration or agitation if necessary.

The Bacillus transformants are usually cultivated at about 30 to 40°C for about 6 to 24 hours with aeration or agitation if necessary.

When the yeast transformants are cultivated, the
5 preferred media is Burkholder minimum medium [K. L. Bostian, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 77, 4505 (1980)]. The pH of the medium is preferably adjusted to about 5 to 8. The cultivation is usually carried out at about 20 to 35°C for about 24 to 72 hours with aeration or agitation if
10 necessary.

When the animal cell transformants are cultured, examples of media which can be used include MEM medium containing about 0 to 20% fetal calf serum [Science, 122, 501 (1952)], DMEM medium [Virology, 8, 396 (1959)],
15 RPMI1640 medium [Journal of the American Medical Association, 199, 519 (1967)] and 199 medium [Proceeding of the Society for the Biological Medicine, 73, 1 (1950)]. The pH is preferably about 6 to 8. The cell culture is usually carried out at about 30 to 40°C for about 15 to 60
20 hours, with aeration or agitation if necessary.

The isolation and purification of GAF from the above-mentioned culture products are carried out according to the following method.

First, the cells are collected by methods known in the
25 art after cultivation. Then, the collected cells are suspended in a buffer solution or a solution containing a protein denaturant such as guanidine hydrochloride, and disrupted by ultrasonic treatment, lysozyme treatment

and/or freeze-thawing thereby releasing GAF, followed by centrifugation to obtain GAF.

GAF can be purified from the extracts by methods known in the art. For example, methods such as fractionation
5 using ammonium sulfate, ion-exchange chromatography, hydrophobic chromatography, affinity chromatography and gel filtration may be used. The column used for purification of naturally occurring GAF has been found to purify the GAF of the present invention very effectively. The homogeneous
10 GAF protein can be obtained by combinations thereof. Further, a protease inhibitor may be added to the purification process when the protein must be obtained without degradation. Additionally, a mild detergent may be added to the purification process to increase the protein
15 yield. In preferred embodiments of the present invention, CHAPS is preferred.

As explained above, GAF produced in accordance with the present invention has cell growth promoting activity to glial cells, so that it can be used as a therapeutic
20 accelerant for cerebral lesion. GAF can also be used in therapy for diseases due to cerebral nerve cell lesion, cerebral edema, Alzheimer's disease, senile dementia and further diabetic neuropathies. Since GAF displays a stronger activity to glial cells than to other cells, it is
25 expected to activate glial cells specifically. Moreover, because of growth promoting activity upon the fibroblasts, the GAF can be used as therapeutic accelerants for burns, wounds, postoperative tissue ulcers and gastrointestinal

ulcers.

Also, it has been found that GAF acts on megakaryocytes to proliferate and differentiate these cells and to promote an increase in the number of platelets. GAF
5 is also believed to promote the proliferation of other hematopoietic or immunocompetent cells. In particular, GAF is believed to take part in the activation of microglial cells which exist in the brain as immunocompetent cells. From this point, GAF will be able to be used for the
10 treatment and improvement of cerebral lesion.

GAF scarcely acts on human umbilical vascular endothelial cells, but exhibits growth promoting activity to vascular smooth muscle cells. Accordingly, GAF will be useful in the treatment of damaged vascular smooth muscle.

15 As with other growth promoting factors such as aFGF, bFGF and IGF, GAF is also expected to have osteogenesis promoting activity, and application of GAF to fracture and osteoporosis is also expected.

As with the cDNA of bFGF, TGF- α , and PDGF, the cDNA of
20 GAF can transform fibroblasts. Because of this transforming ability, an increase in the GAF expression is considered to be one of causes of malignancy in glioma cells. It is therefore conceivable that the production of GAF is heightened in cases displaying cerebral tumor.
25 Therefore, tracking the level of GAF, using antibodies thereof and GAF cDNA will be a useful method for diagnosis of cerebral tumor. Moreover, antibodies to GAF can be used for anti brain tumor agent. Further, GAF can be utilized

for the studies of culture of glial cells as an effective growth factor.

When GAF of the present invention is used as a drug, it can be safely given parenterally or orally to mammals (such as humans, mice, rats, hamsters, rabbits, dogs and cats), in a powder form as is or in a pharmaceutical composition (such as injections, tablets, capsules, solutions and ointments) with pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, excipients and diluents.

The injections of the GAF of the present invention is prepared by conventional methods using, for example, physiological saline or aqueous solutions containing glucose or other auxiliary agents. The pharmaceutical compositions such as tablets and capsules can also be prepared in accordance with conventional methods. The injections, solutions, tablets and capsules as the pharmaceutical compositions are prepared under aseptic conditions.

When the GAF of the present invention is used as a drug as described above, it is given, for example, to the above-mentioned animals in appropriate doses of about 0.5 ng to about 50 $\mu\text{g/kg}$ once and about 1 ng to about 100 $\mu\text{g/kg}$ daily, taking into account the routes of administration, symptoms, etc.

Further, when the GAF of the present invention is used as a reagent for promoting cell culture, it is added to a medium preferably in an amount of about 0.01 to about 10 μg per liter of medium, and more preferably in an amount of

about 0.1 to about 10 µg per liter of medium.

When nucleotides, amino acids and so on are indicated by abbreviations in the specification and drawings, the abbreviations adopted by the IUPAC-IUB Commission on

5 Biochemical Nomenclature or commonly used in the art are employed. For example, the following abbreviations are used. When the amino acids are capable of existing as optical isomers, it is understood that the L-forms are represented unless otherwise specified.

- 10 DNA : Deoxyribonucleic acid
cDNA : Complementary deoxyribonucleic acid
A : Adenine
T : Thymine
G : Guanine
15 C : Cytosine
RNA : Ribonucleic acid
mRNA : Messenger ribonucleic acid
dATP : Deoxyadenosine triphosphate
dTTP : Deoxythymidine triphosphate
20 dGTP : Deoxyguanosine triphosphate
dCTP : Deoxycytidine triphosphate
ATP : Adenosine triphosphate
EDTA : Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
SDS : Sodium dodecyl sulfate
25 Gly or G : Glycine
Ala or A : Alanine
Val or V : Valine
Leu or L : Leucine

Ile or I : Isoleucine
Ser or S : Serine
Thr or T : Threonine
Cys or C : Cysteine
5 Met or M : Methionine
Glu or E : Glutamic acid
Asp or D : Aspartic acid
Lys or K : Lysine
Arg or R : Arginine
10 His or H : Histidine
Phe or F : Phenylalanine
Tyr or Y : Tyrosine
Trp or W : Tryptophan
Pro or P : Proline
15 Asn or N : Asparagine
Gln or Q : Glutamine

Examples

The present invention will be described in more detail through following Examples. It is understood of course
20 that these Examples are not intended to limit the scope of the invention.

Reference Example 1

Assay of Growth Promoting Activity to Glial Cells

Primary culture glial cells prepared from the fetal
25 rat brain were suspended in DMEM medium supplemented with 10% inactivated fetal calf serum at 3×10^4 cells/ml. 100 μ l of the resulting cell suspension was poured into each well of a 96-well flat-bottomed microtiter plate (A/N Nunc,

27580-73

- 33 -

Roskilde, Denmark), and cultured for 2 to 3 days. Then, 75 μ l of the medium was discarded from each well, and 175 μ l of serum-free DMEM medium was added to each well. After additional culturing for 2 to 3 days, 20 μ l of the medium was discarded from each well. Then, 20 μ l of a test sample appropriately diluted with DMEM medium supplemented with 1.25% inactivated fetal calf serum was added to each well, followed by culturing overnight. The next morning, 1 μ Ci tritium thymidine (5 Ci/mmol, 1 mCi/ml, RCC Amersham) was added to each well, and culturing was further conducted for 5 to 7 hours. After culturing, the medium was discarded from each well, and 100 μ l of PBS containing 0.5% trypsin and 0.01% EDTA was added to each well, followed by standing at room temperature for several minutes. After detachment of the glial cells was confirmed under a microscope, the detached cells were collected on a glass fiber filter (Dainippon Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., Japan) using a Titertek Cell Harvester* (Flow Laboratories, Virginia, U.S.A.), and washed with water. Then, the amount of tritium thymidine taken into the cells was measured by a liquid scintillation counter.

Example 1

(1) Collection of Culture Supernatant of Glioma Cell

NMC-G1

Human glioma NMC-G1 cells were cultured in DMEM medium supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum at 37°C using a plastic roller bottle (Corning Iwaki Glass, Japan) with rotation (0.2 rpm). After the NMC-G1 cells became

*Trade-mark

confluent on the surface of the roller bottle, the medium was changed to DMEM medium supplemented with 0.5% fetal calf serum. The cell culture supernatant was collected every 3 to 4 days, and the medium was changed with fresh
5 DMEM medium supplemented with 0.5% fetal calf serum. The collected cell culture supernatant was then subjected to centrifugation (Model J-6B, Beckman, 4,000 rpm, 15 minutes) to obtain a centrifuged supernatant, which was used as a starting material.

10 (2) Purification of GAF

Step 1: Heparin affinity column chromatography

1/50 volume (360 ml) of a 5 M NaCl solution and 1/1000 volume (18 ml) of 10% NaN₃ were added to an 18 liter volume of the NMC-G1 cell culture supernatant obtained by the
15 method described in (1). The NMC-G1 cell culture supernatant thus prepared was passed through a heparin-Sepharose (registered trade mark) CL-6B column (bed volume: 80 ml, Pharmacia LKB Biotechnology, Uppsala, Sweden) pre-equilibrated with 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) containing
20 0.2 M NaCl, at a flow rate of 150 ml/hour at 4°C by using a peristaltic pump. The resin was washed with 450 ml of 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) containing 0.2 M NaCl, at a flow rate of 150 ml/hour at 4°C, and then, the adsorbed protein was eluted with 400 ml of 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH
25 7.6) containing 2 M NaCl (60 ml/hour, 8 ml/fraction, 4°C)(Fig. 1). The growth promoting activity of each eluted GAF fraction upon glial cells was assayed by the method described in Reference Example 1, and fractions having the

27580-73

- 35 -

activity (fractions 11 to 23) were collected for future use.

Step 2: Concentration

In all, 32 liters of the culture supernatant was
5 subjected to the heparin affinity chromatography of step 1,
and active fractions were pooled (192 ml). This solution
was concentrated to about 35 ml by use of a Diaflow*YM-10
membrane (fractional molecular weight: 10,000, Amicon
Corp., Massachusetts, U.S.A.) in an atmosphere of a
10 nitrogen gas under pressure.

Step 3: Gel filtration chromatography

About 35 ml of the solution concentrated in step 2 was
placed on a Sephacryl* S-200HR column (bed volume: 1787 ml,
5 cm in internal diameter X 91 cm in length, Pharmacia LKB
15 Biotechnology), and eluted and fractionated with 20 mM
Tris-HCl buffer supplemented with 0.5 M NaCl and 0.1% CHAPS
(85 ml/hour, 10 ml/fraction, 4°C) (Fig. 2). For each
fraction, the growth promoting activity to glial cells was
assayed by the method described in Reference Example 1, and
20 fractions exhibiting the activity (fractions 105 to 117)
were pooled. To acquire a greater amount of GAF protein,
further, 55 liter of the NMC-G1 culture supernatant was
divided into two parts, and steps 1 to 3 were each
conducted for each part and combined sample was used for
25 following purification steps.

Step 4: Heparin affinity column chromatography

The active fractions obtained by three operations of
gel filtration chromatography in step 3 were pooled (390

*Trade-mark

27580-73

- 36 -

ml). To the solution thus pooled were added 99 ml of 100% glycerin, 2.61 ml of 10% CHAPS, 5.22 ml of 1 M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) and 154 ml of water (651 ml in total).

This solution was loaded onto a heparin-Sepharose

5 (registered trade mark) CL-6B column (bed volume: 5.8 ml) pre-equilibrated with 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) containing 0.3 M NaCl, 0.1% CHAPS and 15% glycerin, at a flow rate of 25 ml/hour at 4°C. The column was washed with 80 ml of 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) containing 0.3 M
10 NaCl, 0.1% CHAPS and 15% glycerin, at a flow rate of 25 ml/hour at 4°C, and then, the adsorbed protein was eluted and fractionated by linearly increasing the concentration of NaCl. The salt concentration gradient was produced by gradually adding 50 ml of 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6)
15 containing 1.2 M NaCl, 0.1% CHAPS and 15% glycerin to 50 ml of 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) containing 0.3 M NaCl, 0.1% CHAPS and 15% glycerin (25 ml/hour, 2 ml/fraction, 4°C) so that the salt concentration gradually rose from 0.3M to 1.2M over the course of the elution (Fig. 3).

20 Step 5: Heparin affinity high performance liquid column chromatography

The active fractions having growth promoting activity to glial cells obtained in step 4 (fractions 23 to 30) were pooled, and 32 ml of 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6)
25 containing 0.1% CHAPS and 15% glycerin was added to 16 ml of the pooled solution. Of the 48 ml of this solution, 46 ml was subjected to high performance liquid chromatography (Varian* model 5040 system, Varian Associates, California,

*Trade-mark

27580-73

- 37 -

U.S.A.) equipped with an HR-894* column (8 mm in diameter X 50 mm in length, Showa Denko K. K., Japan). The protein adsorbed to the resin was eluted at a flow rate of 1 ml/minute by linearly increasing the concentration of NaCl and fractionated (1 ml/fraction). Buffer A used was 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) containing 0.2 M NaCl, 0.1% CHAPS and 15% glycerin, and buffer B was 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) containing 2 M NaCl, 0.1% CHAPS and 15% glycerin. The program of elution was as follows:

10 0 minute (100% A) - 10 minutes (90% A + 10% B) - 15 minutes (90% A + 10% B) - 50 minutes (65% A + 35% B) - 60 minutes (100% B) - 64 minutes (100% B) - 65 minutes (100% A). The concentration gradient produced by this program is depicted in Figure 4.

15 The column temperature was room temperature.

Step 6: Reverse phase high performance liquid column chromatography.

The active fractions obtained in step 5 (fractions 32 to 38) were pooled, and 1.75 ml of 0.5 M phosphate buffer (pH 6.0) was added to 7 ml of the pooled solution. Of 8.75 ml of this solution, 8 ml was applied to high performance liquid chromatography (Varian* model 5040 system) equipped with a Vydac* C4 column (0.46 cm in diameter X 25 cm in length, Vydac, California, U.S.A.). The adsorbed protein was eluted at a flow rate of 0.8 ml/minute by linearly increasing the concentration of acetonitrile to fractionate (0.8 ml/fraction). Solvent A used was 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid (TFA)-99.9% water, and solvent B was 0.1% TFA-90%

*Trade-mark

27580-73

- 38 -

acetonitrile. The program of elution was as follows:

0 minute (100% A) - 15 minutes (65% A + 35% B) - 110
minutes (50% A + 50% B) - 112 minutes (100% B) - 117
minutes (100% B) - 120 minutes (100% A). The

5 concentration gradient produced by this program is depicted
in Figure 5.

The column temperature was room temperature.

After fractionation, acetonitrile was evaporated by a
Speedback* concentrator (Model A290, Servant, U.S.A.).

10 Then, distilled water was added thereto to adjust all
fractions to a volume of 0.5 ml.

The active fractions (fractions 55, 59, 60, 61 and 62)
were subjected to SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis in
the presence of 2-mercaptoethanol, followed by silver
15 staining. Results thereof are shown in Fig. 6. Each
fraction gives a single band at 25 kDa (fraction 55), 29
kDa (fractions 59 and 60) or 30 kDa (fractions 61 and 62).
These three bands correspond to GAF proteins having
molecular weights of about 25,000, about 29,000 and about
20 30,000, respectively.

(3) Summary of Purification

The summary of purification of 33 liters of the NMC-G1
culture supernatant is shown in Table 1.

*Trade-mark

Table 1

5	Sample	Total protein amount (mg)	Total activity (U)	Specific activity (U/mg)	Activity Recovery (%)	Purifi- cation
10	Heparin 2 M NaCl eluent	221	177×10^3	8.0×10^2	100	1
15	Concent- rated (YM-10)	217	216×10^3	1.0×10^3	122	1.3
	Sephacryl S-200HR	17.3	126×10^3	7.3×10^3	71	9.1
20	Heparin column (second)	2.12	60.6×10^3	2.9×10^4	34	36
25	Heparin HPLC	0.453	34.5×10^3	7.6×10^4	20	95
	Reverse phase HPLC					
30	M.W. 25,000	0.0003*	1.84×10^3	6.1×10^6	1.1	7,600
	M.W. 29,000	0.0002*	1.26×10^3	6.3×10^6	0.7	7,900
35	M.W. 30,000	0.0011*	4.85×10^3	4.4×10^6	2.8	5,500

The biological activity was assayed by the method
 described in Reference Example 1. Total activity (U) is
 40 expressed as the reciprocal of the dilution ratio of the
 sample having a 50% uptake value of tritium thymidine,
 wherein a 100% uptake value of tritium thymidine is defined
 as the uptake of tritium thymidine in a medium of 10% fetal
 calf serum. Total protein amount in mg was calculated
 45 using a standardized absorbance of 1.0 at 280 nm for a
 solution having a protein concentration of 1 mg/ml. Where

the total protein amount is shown with a "*", this amount was determined based on the stain density of the silver-stained band on the polyacrylamide gel compared with that of standard protein.

5 Example 2

Activity of GAF to Various Culture Cells (1)

(1) GAF's Growth Promoting Activity upon Glial Cells

The purified GAF obtained by the method described in Example 1, Steps 1-6, displays growth promoting activity
10 upon glial cells as shown in Figure 7. In Figure 7, the values on the abscissa indicate GAF concentration, wherein the concentration designated by the value "6" is $50 \times 4^{1-6}$ ng/ml. The growth promoting activity upon glial cells was assayed according to the method described in Reference

15 Example 1.

To avoid inactivation caused by storage, the growth promoting activity to glial cells was assayed using the purified sample immediately after the operations of reverse phase high performance liquid column chromatography and the
20 removal of acetonitrile, the final step of the purification process. Results thereof are shown in Fig. 8. In this figure, the values on the abscissa indicate GAF concentration.

The results shown in Figures 7 and 8 report slightly
25 different values for the GAF concentration giving a 50% uptake of tritium thymidine. This discrepancy is believed to be due to partial inactivation of one of the samples. Namely, Fig. 7 shows the results obtained when the sample

stored at -80°C after purification was used. It is therefore presumed that the GAF protein in this sample was degenerately inactivated by the freeze-thawing operation of the low concentration protein solution, or adsorbed by
5 the vessel.

(2) Glial Cell Growth Promoting Activity

After addition of GAF, glial cell growth was examined according to the following method.

The glial cells were suspended in DMEM medium
10 supplemented with 10% inactivated fetal calf serum at 3×10^4 cells/ml, and 500 μl thereof was poured into each well of a 24-well culturing plate (Linbro, U.S.A.). Cell culture was conducted for 3 days. Then, 440 μl of the medium was discarded from each well, and 340 μl of fresh DMEM medium
15 was added to each well. Subsequently, the following wells were prepared: wells in which 50 μl of a 50-fold diluted GAF active fraction obtained by the heparin affinity column chromatography described in Example 1-(2), step 4 in DMEM medium supplemented with 1.25% inactivated fetal calf serum
20 was added, wells in which 50 μl of a 500 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ solution of heparin in the same medium was added, wells in which both were added, and wells in which none was added as a control group.

All of the above mentioned wells were adjusted with
25 DMEM medium supplemented with 1.25% inactivated fetal calf serum to give a final volume of 500 μl , followed by further culturing for 2 days. After culturing, each well was washed twice with 3 ml of DMEM medium, and then 0.5 ml of

27580-73

- 42 -

PBS containing 0.2% trypsin and 0.01% EDTA was added thereto to detach the cells. The number of cells of each well was counted using a Coulter* Cell Counter (Type ZM, Coulter). Results are shown in Fig. 9. The number of the glial cells was increased 1.6 times by the addition of GAF, as compared to the groups containing no GAF. However, it appears that the addition of heparin to the wells did not affect glial cell growth.

(3) Time Course of Glial Cell Growth Promoting

10 Activity

The time course of glial cell growth promoting activity were examined according to the method described in Reference Example 1, except for the following. Namely, GAF active fractions obtained by the heparin affinity high performance liquid column chromatography described in Example 1-(2), step 5 was diluted 800 times with DMEM medium supplemented with 1.25% inactivated fetal calf serum, and 20 μ l of the resulting sample was added to each well. Then, 1 μ Ci of tritium thymidine was added to each well after 4, 8, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31 and 40 hours, respectively. The cells were harvested after 3 hours, and the amount of tritium thymidine taken into the cells was measured with a liquid scintillation counter. The same procedure was repeated for a control well. Results are shown in Fig. 10. The uptake of tritium thymidine reached a peak 16 to 19 hours after addition of the GAF.

(4) Growth Promoting Activity to Fibroblasts

As shown in Figure 11, the purified GAF obtained by

*Trade-mark

the method described in Example 1, Steps 1-6 imparts growth promoting activity upon fibroblast mouse BALB/3T3 clone A31 cells. In the figure, the values on the abscissa indicate GAF concentration. The growth promoting activity of GAF
5 upon A31 cells was assayed according to the following method.

2X10³ mouse BALB/3T3 clone A31 cells were added along with 75 µl of DMEM medium supplemented with 5% calf serum into each well of a Nunc 96-well microtiter plate (flat-
10 bottomed), and cultured. The next day, 50 µl of the medium was discarded from each well, and 175 µl of serum-free DMEM medium was added to each well. After cultivation for 3 to 4 days, 20 µl of the medium was discarded from each well. Then, 20 µl of the test sample appropriately diluted with
15 DMEM medium supplemented with 1.25% inactivated fetal calf serum was added to each well, followed by culturing overnight. The next morning, 1 µCi of tritium thymidine (5 Ci/mmol, 1 mCi/ml, RCC Amersham) was added to each well, followed by further culturing for 5 to 7 hours. After
20 culture, each well was washed with 1 ml of PBS, and then 100 µl of 5% SDS solution was added thereto, followed by standing overnight at 37°C. A cell extract of each well was collected in a tube, and the amount of tritium thymidine taken into the cells was measured with a
25 scintillation counter.

To avoid inactivation by the storage, GAF's growth promoting activity upon A31 cells was assayed using the purified sample immediately after the operations of reverse

phase high performance liquid column chromatography and the removal of acetonitrile, the final step of the purification process. Results thereof are shown in Fig. 12. In the figure, the values on the abscissa indicate GAF

5 concentration.

The results shown in Figures 11 and 12 report slightly different values for the GAF concentration giving a 50% uptake of tritium thymidine. This discrepancy is believed to be due to partial inactivation of one of the samples.

10 Namely, Fig. 11 shows the results obtained when the sample stored at -80°C after purification was used. It is therefore presumed that the GAF protein was degenerately inactivated by the freeze-thawing operation of the protein solution, or adsorbed by the vessel.

15 (5) Activity to Human Umbilical Vascular Endothelial Cells

The growth promoting activity of GAF upon human umbilical vascular endothelial cells was determined by comparing it to that of bFGF. This comparison indicated
20 that the purified GAF obtained by the method described in Example 1, Steps 1-6 does not display growth promoting activity upon human umbilical vascular endothelial cells as shown in Figure 13. In the figure, the values on the abscissa indicate the protein concentration of GAF or bFGF.

25 The growth promoting activity to human umbilical vascular endothelial cells was assayed according to the following method. Human venous vascular endothelial cells (hereinafter referred to as HUVE cells) isolated from the

27580-73

- 45 -

human umbilical cords were used for this assay. Further, the well known MTT assay was used for measurement of the cell proliferation degree. However, this assay method was modified in accordance with Tada et al. [J. Immunol.

5 Methods, 93, 157 (1986)]. Namely, the HUVE cells maintained under the passage were dissociated into single cells by the use of a 0.125% trypsin solution (Boehringer Mannheim) containing 0.002% EDTA (345-01882, Dotite), and the resulting cells were suspended in medium comprising GIT
10 medium (398-00515, Nippon Seiyaku) supplemented with 2.5% fetal calf serum (Whittakar Bioproduct). The number of the cells contained in this cell suspension was counted using a Coulter*Cell Counter (Type ZM, Coulter), and the suspension was subjected to the following cell culture: 100 μ l of the
15 suspension containing 2×10^3 HUVE cells was added to each well of a 96-well culture dish (F96, Nunc), followed by culturing at 37°C (Hitachi*CO₂-N₂ control incubator, CH-16 type, CO₂: 5%, O₂: 7%). The day after culturing, test samples (Fig. 13) were added to the HUVE cell culture.
20 Heparin (Sigma, U.S.A.) was further added to produce a final concentration of 5.0 μ g/ml to 20 μ g/ml. After addition of the sample, culturing was conducted for further 3 days. The medium was removed from the culture well, and 100 μ l of HUVE medium supplemented with 1.0 mg/ml MTT
25 reagent (34101823, Dotite) was added to the well, followed by maintenance at 37°C for 4 hours. Then, 100 μ l of a 10% SDS (Wako Pure Chemical Industries) solution was added thereto, and maintained for 4 hours at constant temperature

*Trade-mark

of 37°C. After termination of reaction, the 96-well culture dish containing the reaction solution was shaken, and its absorbance at 590 nm was measured by use of a microtiter plate absorbance measuring instrument (MCC 341, 5 Titertek).

(6) Activity to Rat Pheochromocytoma PC-12 Cells

As shown in Figure 14, the purified GAF obtained by the method described in Example 1, Steps 1-6 has growth promoting activity upon rat pheochromocytoma PC12 cells. 10 In the figure, the values on the abscissa indicate the GAF concentration.

The growth promoting activity to PC-12 cells was assayed according to the following method. GAF was appropriately diluted with RPMI-1640 medium supplemented 15 with 1% inactivated horse serum, and 50 µl of the resulting solution was poured into each well of a 96-well microtiter plate. Next, PC-12 cells were suspended in RPMI-1640 medium supplemented with 1% inactivated horse serum to give 10⁶ cells/ml, and 50 µl of the cell suspension was poured 20 into each well of a 96-well flat-bottomed microtiter plate (A/N Nunc, Roskilde, Denmark), followed by further culturing for 2 days. After culturing, 5 µCi of tritium thymidine (5 Ci/mmol, 1 mCi/ml, RCC Amersham) was added to each well, followed by culturing for further 5 hours.

25 After culturing, the cells were collected on a glass fiber filter using a Titertek Cell Harvester, and washed with water. Then, the the amount of tritium thymidine taken into the cells was measured by a liquid scintillation counter.

27580-73

- 47 -

(7) Stability of Activity

When the 2 M NaCl fractions eluted from a heparin-Sephadex (registered trade mark) CL-6B column (Example 1-(2), step 1) were heat treated at 100°C for 5 minutes, the activity was completely lost. Further, when they were treated at pH 2 at room temperature for 30 minutes, the activity was partially lost. These phenomena are shown in Figure 15. In the figure, the values on the abscissa indicate the dilution of GAF. Control means the untreated GAF. Dashed line indicates the tritium thymidin incorporation level without GAF.

(8) Antigenicity: Immunological Cross Reaction of GAF with aFGF and bFGF

A sample purified according to the method described in Example 1, Steps 1-6, was subjected to Western Blotting using rabbit anti-aFGF polyclonal anti-serum and rabbit anti-bFGF IgG. As seen from Fig. 16, the GAF did not cross react either aFGF or bFGF.

Example 3Property of GAF Protein Produced by NMC-G1 Cells

30 ug of 25 kDa GAF, 30 ug of 29 kDa GAF and 60 ug of 30 kDa GAF as obtained in Example 1 were subjected to SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, and then transferred onto a ProBlott*membrane (Applied Biosystems, California, U.S.A.) by use of a dry-type blotting apparatus (ATTO, Tokyo, Japan). The membrane was immersed in a phosphate buffer-NaCl solution (8 g/l NaCl, 0.2 g/l KCl, 1.15 g/l Na₂HPO₄, 0.2 g/l KH₂PO₄, pH 7.4) supplemented with a 2% PVP-

*Trade-mark

27580-73

- 48 -

360 solution (2% polyvinylpyrrolizone-360, Sigma, U.S.A.) for 45 minutes with shaking, and then, transferred into a 2% PVP-360 solution containing biotinyl concanavalin A (Vector Lab, U.S.A.) at a concentration of 10 µg/ml, followed by shaking for 1 hour. Then, the membrane was washed with TNT buffer [25 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.5) containing 0.5 M NaCl and 0.1% Triton^{*} X-100] for 10 minutes, for three (3) times. Further, the membrane was immersed for 45 minutes in phosphate buffer-NaCl solution containing a complex of avidin and biotinylated horse radish peroxidase [Standard Vactostain (registered trade mark) ABC kit, Vector Lab], and was washed with TNT buffer (10 minutes, 3 times).

A mixture of 20 ml of TN buffer [25 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.5) containing 0.5 M NaCl] and 13.2 µl of aqueous hydrogen peroxide was added to a solution of 12 mg of 4-chloro-1-naphthol in 4 ml of methanol, and the membrane was immersed therein to develop color. Results thereof are shown in Fig. 17. Fig. 17 is a diagram showing stained GAF using biotinyl concanavalin A, avidin and biotinyl peroxidase.

Three molecular species of GAF were all stained and it indicates that these molecules can bind to concanavalin A by their carbohydrate chains.

Enzymatic deglycosylation using N-glycanase was carried out according to the protocol of Genzyme (Boston, U.S.A.). After N-glycanase treatment of GAF, SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis was performed, and the

*Trade-mark

gel was silver-stained. Results thereof are shown in Fig. 18. The band of each of 25 kDa, 29 kDa and 30 kDa GAFs was decreased in molecular weight by 3 to 4 kDa after the treatment although it appeared that the deglycosylation was only partially completed. This showed the GAF had 3 to 4 kDa sugar chain of N-glycosylated type.

From the above two experiments, it was confirmed that each of the 25 kDa, 29 kDa and 30 kDa GAFs has an N-linked carbohydrate glycosido type sugar chain attached to its glycosylation site.

Example 4

Analysis of N-Terminal Amino Acid Sequence

Three kinds of GAFs (25 kDa, 29 kDa and 30 kDa) were adsorbed in ProBlott (registered trade mark) (Applied Biosystems, California, U.S.A.), a polyvinylidene difluoride type membrane, and their amino acid sequences were analyzed using a protein sequencer (Model 473A system, Applied Biosystems). About 60 pmol of 25 kDa GAF, about 5 pmol of 29 kDa GAF and about 55 pmol of 30 kDa GAF were so analyzed. The resulting sequences are shown below:

	1	5	10	
25 kDa	Ala-Asp-Z ₁ -Leu-Gly-Gln-Ser-Glu-Ala-Gly-Gly-Leu-Pro-			
25	15 16	20 21		
	X-Gly-Pro-Ala-Val-Thr-Asp-Leu-	(SEQ ID NO:16)		
	1	5 6 7	10	
29 kDa	X-Gln-Asp-Ala-Val-Pro-Phe-Gly-Asn-Val-Pro-(Ser)-			
30	13			
	Leu-	(SEQ ID NO:17)		
	1	5	10	
35 30 kDa	Z ₂ -Gly-Glu-Val-Gly-Asn-Tyr-Phe-Gly-Val-Gln-Asp-Ala-			

15 16 20 23
 Val-Pro-Phe-Gly- Asn-Val-(Pro)-X-Leu-Leu- (SEQ ID
 NO:18)

5 Z₁ = His or Pro

Z₂ = Leu or Ala

X = Unidentified amino acid

(): Amino acid undetermined, but deduced

Example 5

10 Cloning of GAF cDNA and Analysis of Nucleotide Sequence Thereof

Based on the amino acid sequence of 30 kDa GAF
 obtained in Example 4, the following two oligonucleotide
 primers (primers 1 and 2) which corresponded to this
 15 sequence and to which a recognition sequence of a
 restriction enzyme was added were synthesized.

30 kDa GAF 1 5 10
 Z₂ Gly Glu Val Gly Asn Tyr Phe Gly Val-

20 Primer 1: 5'-AAGGATCCGTIGGIAAYTAYTTYGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:19)

11 15 20 23
 Gln Asp Ala Val Pro Phe Gly Asn Val (Pro) X Leu Leu

25 Primer 2: 5'-AAGAATTCACRTTICCRAAIGGGIAC-3' (SEQ ID
 NO:20)

Z₂ = Leu or Ala, I = Inosine, Y = T/C, R = A/G

30 Using these primers, the polymerase chain reaction
 (PCR) [K. B. Mullis and F. A. Fulcoora, Methods in
Enzymology, 155, 335 (1987)] was conducted by use of human
 genome-derived DNA as a template (GeneAmp (registered trade
 mark) DNA Amplification Reagent Kit (Ceatas, U.S.A.)).
 35 Each of primers 1 and 2 was added in an amount of 560 ng
 per µg of genome DNA, and 2.5 units of Ampli Taq

27580-73

- 51 -

(registered trade mark) (Ceatas, U.S.A.) was added to 100 μ l of the reaction solution. Then, a cycle of DNA synthesis at 94°C for 1 minute, at 50°C for 2 minutes and at 72°C for 3 minutes was repeated 25 times. This reaction product was subjected to acrylamide gel electrophoresis, and fragments having a desired length of about 63 bp were recovered. As a result of the analysis of the nucleotide sequence thereof, the following sequence was obtained:

5'-GGATCCGTGGGGAAGTATTTTCGGGGTGCAGGATGCGGTCCCCTTCGGCAA
10 CGTGAATTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:21)

Based on this sequence, the following two probes (probes 1 and 2) were chemically synthesized.

Probe 1 5'-TGGGGAAGTATTTTCGGGGTGCAGGATGCGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:22)

15 Probe 2 5'-ACGTTGCCGAAGGGGACCGCATCCTGCACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:23)

Separately, a cDNA library using E. coli x1776 as a host was prepared by introducing cDNA synthesized from mRNA of human foreskin-derived primary culture cells into the pCD vector [see Okayama et al., Molecular Cell Biology, 3, 280 (1983)] which was supplied from Dr. Okayama, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Bethesda, U.S.A. Plasmid DNA was extracted from this cDNA library by the alkali method [H. C. Birnboim and J. Doly, Nucleic
20 Acids Research, 1, 1513 (1979)], and E. coli DH1 was
25 infected with this DNA to prepare a cDNA library containing about 2×10^5 clones of E. coli DH1 as host cells.

Ten nitrocellulose filters (HATF*filter, Millipore)

*Trade-mark

were plated with the above-mentioned cDNA library using E. coli DH1 to about 1×10^5 clones/filter. Ten pairs of replica filters consisting of 2 filters were prepared from the above 10 master filters. Plasmid DNA exposed for
5 denaturation by lysing E. coli on the replica filters with 0.5 N NaOH solution was fixed on the filters [M. Crunstein and D. S. Hogness, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 72, 8961 (1975)].

^{32}P was introduced into the 5'-terminus of probes 1
10 and 2 by using T4 polynucleotide kinase and $[\gamma\text{-}^{32}\text{P}]\text{-ATP}$. Each of these probes was hybridized with each of the replica filters on which the DNA was fixed. The hybridization reaction was carried out at 55°C for 16 hours in 10 ml of a solution of 5 X SSPE (180 mM NaCl, 10 mM
15 NaH_2PO_4 , 1mM EDTA, pH 7.4) supplemented with 10 μCi probe, 5 X Denhardt's, 0.1% SDS and 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of denatured salmon sperm DNA. After completion of the reaction, the filters were washed 3 times with a solution of 5 X SSC (0.15 M NaCl, 0.015 M sodium citrate) and 0.1% SDS at room
20 temperature, and twice further at 60°C for 30 minutes [T. Maniatis et al. Molecular Cloning, p.309, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (1982)].

Radioautograms were taken from the washed filters and the radioautograms of the replica filters in sets of two
25 filters were superposed on each other to search the cells reactive to both the two kinds of probes. By this method, 2 clones reactive to the two kinds of probes were obtained from 1×10^6 clones.

The plasmid DNAs of the two clones were extracted and purified by the alkali method (described above). When the cDNA portions of the plasmid DNAs were cut out with restriction enzyme BamHI and fractionated by agarose gel electrophoresis, both the cDNAs derived from the two clones showed the same chain length of about 1.55 kb. These two strains were considered to be identical with each other.

The nucleotide sequence of the cDNA portion of the plasmid contained in one (E. coli K12 DH1/pGAF1) of these two strains was determined by the dideoxynucleotide synthetic chain termination method [J. Messing et al., Nucleic Acids Research, 9, 309 (1981)]. The nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 24) thus determined and the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 25) deduced from this nucleotide sequence are shown in Fig. 19. The cDNA portion contained in the sequence determined E. coli K12 DH1/pGAF1 ("pGAF1") had a chain length of 1493 b, and contained a 5'-terminal non-translated region, an all amino acid coding region, a 3'-terminal non-translated region and a poly A chain. The coded amino acid sequence had 208 amino acids, and contained all the partial amino acid sequences of 30 kDa, 29 kDa and 25 kDa disclosed by the N-terminal sequence analysis as discussed in Example 4. The coded amino acid sequence was partially different from the sequences obtained in Example 4 (the 1-position of 25 kDa, Ala; the 12-position of 29 kDa, Ser; and the 23-position of 30 kDa, Leu). However, these differences were observed in the N-terminus and portions identified exceeding 10 residues, all

27580-73

- 54 -

of which were liable to give uncertain results in amino acid analysis. Therefore, the sequence deduced from the cDNA is considered to be correct.

Example 6 Expression of Genes Coding for GAF in

5 Mammalian Cells

 (1) Expression of GAF in COS-7 Cells

 Monkey Cos-7 cells in IMDM medium supplemented with 10% NU-Serum (Colaborative Research) were plated in Falcon* plastic dishes having a diameter of 60 mm at 6×10^5 cells/dish. The next day, after washing with serum-free IMDM medium, reaction solutions containing 2 μ g and 10 μ g of plasmid pGAF-1 DNA and 400 μ g/ml of DEAE-dextran were prepared according to the method known in the art [B. Seed et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 52, 3365 (1987)], and one or the other of the above solutions was added to every dish. After incubation at 37°C for 4 hours, DMSO treatment was carried out. Then, cell culturing was continued in a medium (3 ml/dish) containing 10% Nu-Serum, and the medium was collected after 70 to 72 hours. The cells were recovered from the dish by rubber policeman and suspended in 1.5 ml of phosphate buffered saline.

 Glial cell growth promoting activity was detected in a culture supernatant of the COS-7 cells transfected with pGAF1. The activity was not detected in culture supernatants of the COS-7 cells which were transfected with plasmid pCDX having no GAF cDNA nor of the COS-7 cells which were not transfected as shown in Figure 20. Also according to Figure 20, extracts from pGAF1 transfected

*Trade-mark

cells obtained by two cycles of freeze-thawing and sonication did not show significant activity, compared to that from the control transfectant. From these results, it was confirmed that the cDNA of pGAF1 was correctly coded for GAF protein, and it was revealed that, when the cDNA was expressed with the COS cells, the product was secreted into the culture solution.

(2) Expression of GAF in CHO Cells

(a) Construction of Expression Plasmid pDGAF1

Plasmid pGAF1 obtained in Example 5 was cleaved with restriction enzyme BamHI, and a 1.55-kb GAF cDNA fragment was isolated. Similarly, vector pTB399 for mammalian cells [Cell Struct. Funct., 12, 205 (1987)] was cleaved with restriction enzyme BamHI, and the IL-2 cDNA region was removed, followed by insertion of the above-mentioned 1.55-kb fragment of the GAF cDNA to construct expression plasmid pRGB12 which could express GAF cDNA in mammalian cells under the control of Abelson murine leukemia virus (MuLV) LTR. Further, this plasmid was cleaved with restriction enzyme SalI-HindIII, and an expression unit portion (promoter gene-poly(A) signal) was inserted into the SalI-HindIII site located upstream from the SV40 promoter of hamster dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR) expression plasmid pTB348 [Cell Struct. Funct., 12, 205 (1987)] to construct plasmid pDGAF1. Fig. 21 is a schematic representation showing the construction of plasmid pDGAF1.

(b) Expression in CHO Cells

CHO dhfr⁻ cells were plated in a dish of diameter of

6cm with HamF12 medium supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum. The next day, the medium was replaced with the same fresh medium. After 2 hours, 10 μ g of plasmid pDGAF1 DNA was transfected by the calcium phosphate method [Graham et al., Virology, 52, 456 (1973)]. After being cultured in a growth medium for 2 days, the cells were plated again in a 96-well microtiter plate (Nunc) with DMEM medium supplemented with 35 μ g/ml proline and 10% dialysis FCS. The medium change was carried out every 3 to 4 days, and some dhfr⁺ transformants were selected. These transformants were transferred to a 24-well microtiter plate (Linbro, Flow) in DMEM medium supplemented with 35 μ g/ml proline and 5% FCS to culture each clone. Thereafter, DMEM medium supplemented with 35 μ g/ml proline and 5% FCS was used for culture. 16 of these clones which produced GAF protein were transferred to a 6 cm diameter dish, and were cultured with an increasing concentration of the methotrexate (MTX) by three steps (0.1, 1 and 10 μ M) to get 10 μ M MTX resistant clones which might have amplified DHFR and GAF gene. The GAF activity in the culture supernatant of each clone is shown in Fig. 22. The values of abscissa in the Figure indicate the dilution rate of the added supernatant. Clones having high GAF activity were selected, and used for natural-type GAF producing cells to which sugar chains were attached.

Example 7

Transformation of Mouse BALB/3T3 Cells by Introduction of GAF Genes

(1) Construction of GAF Expression Plasmid pRGB12

Plasmid pRGB12 described in Example 6 was used as a GAF expression plasmid. Plasmid pTB1055 into which the GAF cDNA was not inserted was used as a control plasmid.

5 (2) Transformation of BALB/c 3T3 Cells

About 10^5 cells of mouse BALB/3T3 clone A31 [subclone A31-1-1 (Kakunaga et al., Science, 209, 505 (1980)), supplied from Dr. Kakunaga] were plated in a 6 cm dish in DMEM medium supplemented with 10% bovine serum. The next
10 day, the medium was replaced with a new volume of the same medium. After 3 hours, 1, 2, 5 or 10 μ g of plasmid pRGB12 or pTB1055 were transfected by the calcium phosphate method [Graham et al., Virology, 52, 456 (1973)]. After
15 incubation at 37°C for 4 hours, stimulation of transfection was carried out with a PBS solution supplemented with 15% glycerol. Cell culturing was continued for 4 weeks, replacing half of the medium for DMEM medium containing 5% calf serum for every 3 to 4 days. After termination of the culture, the medium was discarded and ice-cooled methanol
20 was added thereto to fix the cells for 15 minutes. After washing with water, the cells were stained with the Giemza solution for 20 minutes. The dishes were washed with water and dried in air, followed by the counting of stained foci. Results thereof are shown in Table 2. These results
25 clearly revealed that the GAF genes had a transforming property.

Table 2

Focus Formation of A31 Cells by Introduction of GAF Genes

27580-73

- 58 -

	Plasmid	Amount of transfected DNA (μ g)				
		0	1	2	5	10
5	pTB1055	0*	N.T.	0	N.T.	0
	pRGB12	0	3	28	25	33
10	* The number of focuses per dish					
	N.T.: Not tried					

Example 815 (1) Expression of GAF in E. coli (a) Construction of GAF Expression Plasmid pETGAF1

Plasmid pGAF1 containing all the structure genes of GAF obtained in Example 5 was cleaved with restriction enzyme KpnI-BamHI, and a 1.25-kb DNA fragment was isolated.

20 Similarly, plasmid pET3-c containing a T7 promoter was cleaved with restriction enzyme NdeI-BamHI, and a 4.6 kb DNA was isolated, followed by insertion therein of the above-mentioned 1.25-kb fragment of the GAF cDNA and synthesized DNA fragments (NdeI-KpnI) [(SEQ ID NO:26) and

25 (SEQ ID NO:27)] which code Met just ahead of Leu, the N-terminus of the purified 30 kda GAF protein. In this manner, expression plasmid pETGAF1, which could express the GAF cDNA under the control of the T7-promoter, was constructed. Fig. 23 is a schematic representation showing

30 the construction of plasmid pETGAF1. Using this plasmid, E. coli MM294 (DE3)/pLysS was transformed to produce GAF expression plasmid E. coli MM294(DE3)/pLysS,pETGAF1.

MM294(DE3)/pLysS,pETGAF1 thus obtained was cultivated in LB medium, and expression of GAF was induced by

isopropyl- β -D(-)-thiogalactoside (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd., Japan). Then, extracted proteins from the cells corresponding to 200 μ l of the culture solution were examined by Western Blotting method using rabbit anti-
5 GAF polyclonal anti-serum (500-fold dilution) recognizing the N-terminal portion of GAF protein. As a result, a specific band was observed as shown in Figure 24. The transformant MM294(DE3)/pLysS, pET3-c which was transformed with plasmid pET3-c having no GAF cDNA did not produce the
10 band.

(2) Extraction of Human GAF (rhGAF) Produced in E. coli

E. coli MM294(DE3)/pLysS, pETGAF1 was cultivated with shaking at 37°C in LB medium supplemented with 50 μ g/ml
15 ampicillin and 10 μ g/ml chloramphenicol. When the Klett value of the culture solution reached 120, isopropyl- β -D(-)-thiogalactoside was added to a final concentration of 0.4 mM, and the culture was further cultivated with shaking at 37°C for 3.5 hours. The cells collected from 1 liter of
20 the culture solution by centrifugation (6,000 rpm, for 10 minutes) were suspended on ice in 80 ml of 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer supplemented with 2 mM (p-amidinophenyl) methanesulfonyl fluoride hydrofluoride (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Japan), 100 μ g/ml egg white lysozyme (Seikagaku
25 Kogyo K. K., Tokyo, Japan) and 0.1 M NaCl, and the resulting suspension was allowed to stand at 4°C for 1 hour, followed by incubation at 37°C for 3 minutes. The suspension thus obtained was cooled with ice and subjected

27580-73

- 60 -

to ultrasonic treatment [Sonifier Cell Disruptor 800 (registered trade mark), Branson, U.S.A., at an output of 8 for 2 minutes]. An E. coli extract was obtained by centrifugation at 17,000 rpm for 40 minutes.

5 (3) Purification of Human GAF (rhGAF) Produced in E. coli

Step 1: Ammonium sulfate precipitation

To 80 ml of the E. coli extract obtained from 1 liter of the above solution, 27 ml of saturated ammonium sulfate
10 solution was added, followed by mixing. Then, the mixture was allowed to stand at 4°C for overnight. Subsequently, the mixture was centrifuged at 17,000 rpm for 40 minutes to obtain a supernatant.

Step 2: Hydrophobic column chromatography

15 100 ml of the centrifuged supernatant obtained in step 1 was passed through a Butyl-Toyopearl^{*} column 650M (bed volume: 50 ml, 2.5 cm in internal diameter X 10 cm in length, Tosoh Corp. Tokyo, Japan) equilibrated with 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) supplemented with 25% saturated
20 ammonium sulfate solution, at a flow rate of 80 ml/hour at 4°C. The resin was thoroughly washed with 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) supplemented with 12.5% saturated ammonium sulfate solution and 2 mM aPMSF, and then, rhGAF protein-containing fractions (assayed by Western-blotting
25 technique, data not shown) were obtained by elution with 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) supplemented with 15% glycerin, 0.1% CHAPS and 2 mM aPMSF (E₂, 80 ml/hour, 10 ml/fraction, 4°C), the results of which are shown in Figure 25.

*Trade-mark

Step 3: Heparin affinity high performance liquid column chromatography

The rhGAF protein-containing fractions (fractions 44 to 47) obtained in step 2 were pooled (40 ml). Of 40 ml of this solution, 36 ml was applied to high performance liquid column chromatography (Gilson Medical Electronics, France) equipped with an HR-894 column (8 mm in diameter X 50 mm in length, Showa Denko K. K., Japan). The protein adsorbed by the resin was eluted at a flow rate of 2 ml/ minute by linearly increasing the concentration of NaCl and fractionated (2 ml/fraction). Buffer A used was 10 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) containing 0.4 M NaCl, 0.1% CHAPS and 15% glycerin, and buffer B was 10 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) containing 2 M NaCl, 0.1% CHAPS and 15% glycerin. The program of elution was as follows:

0 minute (100% A) - 70 minutes (75% A + 25% B) - 75 minutes (100% B) - 80 minutes (100% B) - 85 minutes (100% A). The results of this elution are shown in Figure 26. The column temperature was room temperature.

One microliter of each of eluted fractions 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 was subjected to SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (gel concentration: 12.5%) in the presence of 2-mercaptoethanol, followed by silver staining. Results thereof are shown in Fig. 27. Fractions eluted by increasing the concentration of NaCl gives a single band at 27 kDa. This 27 kDa protein was also recognized by rabbit anti-GAF polyclonal anti-serum which binds to the N-terminal portion of GAF as shown in

27580-73

- 62 -

Figure 28. Fractions 27 to 42 were pooled.

(4) Summary of Purification

The summary of purification of rhGAF obtained from 1 liter culture of the E. coli MM294(DE3)/pLysS, pETGAF1 is shown in Table 3.

Table 3

10	Sample	Total protein amount (mg)	Total activity (U)	Specific activity (U/mg)	Activity Recovery (%)	Purifi- cation
	<u>E. coli</u> extract	672	4.16×10^7	6.19×10^4	100	1
15	25% satu- rated ammo- nium sulfate supernatant	210	4.35×10^7	2.07×10^5	105	3.3
20	Butyl Toyopearl	37.6	4.10×10^6	1.09×10^5	10	1.8
25	Heparin HPLC	4.5	3.31×10^6	7.35×10^5	8.0	12

The biological activity was assayed by the method described in Reference Example 1. Total activity (U) is expressed as the reciprocal of the dilution ratio of the sample having a 50% uptake value of tritium thymidine, wherein a 100% uptake value of tritium thymidine is defined as the uptake of tritium thymidine in a medium of 10% fetal calf serum. The amount of the protein was determined by a MicroBCA* kit (Pierce, U.S.A.) using bovine serum albumin as a standard.

Example 9

Activity of GAF to Various Culture Cells (2)

(1) Growth Promoting Activity to Glial Cells

*Trade-mark

As indicated in Figure 29, the rhGAF obtained by the method described in Example 8-(3) has growth promoting activity to glial cell. In the figure, the values on the abscissa indicate the GAF concentration. GAF's growth promoting activity upon glial cells, was assayed according to the method described in Reference Example 1.

(2) Growth Promoting Activity to Fibroblasts

As indicated in Figure 30, the rhGAF obtained by the method described in Example 8-(3) has growth promoting activity to fibroblast mouse BALB/3T3 clone A31 cells. In the figure, the values on the abscissa indicate the GAF concentration. GAF's growth promoting activity upon A31 cells was assayed according to the method described in Example 2-(4).

(3) Growth Promoting Activity to Rat Vascular Smooth Muscle Cells

As indicated in Figure 31, the rhGAF obtained by the method described in Example 8-(3) has growth promoting activity to rat vascular smooth muscle cells (Fig. 31). In the figure, the values on the abscissa indicate the GAF concentration.

GAF's growth promoting activity upon the rat vascular smooth muscle cells was assayed according to the following method. Rat primary culture vascular smooth muscle cells were plated in each well of a Nunc 96-well microtiter plate (flat-bottomed) in an amount of 3×10^3 /well in 100 μ l of Eagle's MEM medium supplemented with 10% calf serum, and cultured. The next day, 80 μ l of the medium was discarded

27580-73

- 64 -

from each well, and 180 μ l of serum-free Eagle's MEM medium was added to each well. After culturing for 2 days, 20 μ l of the medium was discarded from each well. Then, 20 μ l of the test sample appropriately diluted with DMEM medium
5 supplemented with 0.1% bovine serum albumin was added to each well, followed by culturing overnight. The next morning, 1 μ Ci of tritium thymidine (5 Ci/mmol, 1 mCi/ml, RCC Amersham) was added to each well, followed by culturing for further 5 hours. After culturing, the medium was
10 discarded from each well, and 100 μ l of PBS containing 0.5% trypsin and 0.01% EDTA was added to each well, followed by standing at room temperature for several minutes. After the detachment of the cells was confirmed under a microscope, the detached cells were collected on a glass
15 fiber filter (Dainippon Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., Japan) by using a Titertek Cell Harvester*(Flow Laboratories, Virginia, U.S.A.), and washed with water. Then, the amount of tritium thymidine taken into the cells was measured by a liquid scintillation counter.

20 (4) Activity to Human Umbilical Vascular Endothelial Cells

The rhGAF obtained by the method described in Example 8-(3) does not have growth promoting activity to human umbilical vascular endothelial cells, as indicated in
25 Figure 32, which compares rhGAF and bFGF activity. In the figure, the values on the abscissa indicate the protein concentration of rhGAF or bFGF. The growth promoting activity to the human umbilical vascular endothelial cells

*Trade-mark

27580-73

- 65 -

was assayed according to the method described in Example 2-(5).

(5) Megakaryocyte Colony Stimulating Factor Activity of rhGAF

- 5 BALB/c female mouse bone marrow cells were suspended in Iscove modified Dulbecco's medium (IMDM) supplemented with 20% fetal calf serum(FCS) to give 2×10^7 cells/ml, and incubated at 37°C for 1 hour in a plastic culture dish coated with fetal calf serum to remove adherent cells.
- 10 After washing with IMDM 3 times, the resulting non-adherent bone marrow cells were used for the experiment. The cells were suspended in IMDM supplemented with 1% Neutridoma^{*} SP (Boehringer Mannheim), and each well of a 96-well flat-bottomed plate was inoculated with 1×10^5 cells, together
- 15 with human recombinant GAF (rhGAF). A 125 µg/ml solution of rhGAF in 0.6 M NaCl, 15% glycerin, 0.1% CHAPS, 10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.6) was diluted with IMDM, and a GAF-free buffer was similarly diluted, and they were added to the experiment system, respectively. Further, mouse
- 20 recombinant IL-3 (mrIL-3) (Genzyme) was used as the positive control. Cell culturing was conducted at 37°C for 4 days in the presence of air containing 5% CO₂. Then, 20 µl of PBS solution supplemented with 5 mg/ml MTT (Sigma) was added, followed by culturing at 37°C for 5 hours. 100
- 25 µl of 10% SDS, 0.01 N HCl solution was added thereto, and the resulting solution was further incubated overnight at 37°C. Then, the absorbance at 590 nm was measured and the proliferation of the bone marrow cells was examined.

*Trade-mark

Results thereof are shown in Fig. 33.

Similarly, cells similarly prepared were cultured at 37°C for 7 days in the presence of air containing 5% CO₂. 50 µl of PBS solution supplemented with 5% glutaraldehyde was added, followed by centrifugation at 2,000 rpm for 5 minutes to fix the cells. After washing with 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH 6.0) once, megakaryocytes were stained by acetylcholinesterase staining (see Biochemical Experimental Course, second series, 8, Bloods, first volume, page 149), and the number of megakaryocytes per well was counted under an inverted microscope. Results thereof are shown in Fig. 34.

These results revealed that the rhGAF had the activity to support the growth of mouse bone marrow cells and further had the activity to megakaryocytes acting on their growth and maturation in the bone marrow cells.

SEQUENCE LISTING

SEQ ID NO:1:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 142 amino acids

SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: protein

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

Leu	Asp	His	Leu	Lys	Gly	Ile	Leu	Arg	Arg	Arg	Gln	Leu	Tyr	Cys	Arg	1	5	10	15
Thr	Gly	Phe	His	Leu	Glu	Ile	Phe	Pro	Asn	Gly	Thr	Ile	Gln	Gly	Thr	20	25	30	
Arg	Lys	Asp	His	Ser	Arg	Phe	Gly	Ile	Leu	Glu	Phe	Ile	Ser	Ile	Ala	35	40	45	
Val	Gly	Leu	Val	Ser	Ile	Arg	Gly	Val	Asp	Ser	Gly	Leu	Tyr	Leu	Gly	50	55	60	
Met	Asn	Glu	Lys	Gly	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Gly	Ser	Glu	Lys	Leu	Thr	Gln	Glu	65	70	75	80
Cys	Val	Phe	Arg	Glu	Gln	Phe	Glu	Glu	Asn	Trp	Tyr	Asn	Thr	Tyr	Ser	85	90	95	
Ser	Asn	Leu	Tyr	Lys	His	Val	Asp	Thr	Gly	Arg	Arg	Tyr	Tyr	Val	Ala	100	105	110	
Leu	Asn	Lys	Asp	Gly	Thr	Pro	Arg	Glu	Gly	Thr	Arg	Thr	Lys	Arg	His	115	120	125	
Gln	Lys	Phe	Thr	His	Phe	Leu	Pro	Arg	Pro	Val	Asp	Pro	Asp	130	135	140			

SEQ ID NO:2:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 207 amino acids

SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: protein

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

Ala	Pro	Leu	Gly	Glu	Val	Gly	Asn	Tyr	Phe	Gly	Val	Gln	Asp	Ala	Val	1	5	10	15
Pro	Phe	Gly	Asn	Val	Pro	Val	Leu	Pro	Val	Asp	Ser	Pro	Val	Leu	Leu	20	25	30	
Ser	Asp	His	Leu	Gly	Gln	Ser	Glu	Ala	Gly	Gly	Leu	Pro	Arg	Gly	Pro	35	40	45	
Ala	Val	Thr	Asp	Leu	Asp	His	Leu	Lys	Gly	Ile	Leu	Arg	Arg	Arg	Gln				

50		55		60											
Leu 65	Tyr	Cys	Arg	Thr	Gly 70	Phe	His	Leu	Glu	Ile 75	Phe	Pro	Asn	Gly	Thr 80
Ile	Gln	Gly	Thr	Arg 85	Lys	Asp	His	Ser	Arg 90	Phe	Gly	Ile	Leu	Glu 95	Phe
Ile	Ser	Ile	Ala 100	Val	Gly	Leu	Val	Ser 105	Ile	Arg	Gly	Val	Asp 110	Ser	Gly
Leu	Tyr	Leu 115	Gly	Met	Asn	Glu	Lys 120	Gly	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Gly 125	Ser	Glu	Lys
Leu	Thr 130	Gln	Glu	Cys	Val	Phe 135	Arg	Glu	Gln	Phe	Glu 140	Glu	Asn	Trp	Tyr
Asn 145	Thr	Tyr	Ser	Ser	Asn 150	Leu	Tyr	Lys	His	Val 155	Asp	Thr	Gly	Arg	Arg 160
Tyr	Tyr	Val	Ala	Leu 165	Asn	Lys	Asp	Gly	Thr 170	Pro	Arg	Glu	Gly	Thr 175	Arg
Thr	Lys	Arg	His 180	Gln	Lys	Phe	Thr	His 185	Phe	Leu	Pro	Arg	Pro 190	Val	Asp
Pro	Asp	Lys 195	Val	Pro	Glu	Leu 200	Tyr	Lys	Asp	Ile	Leu	Ser 205	Gln	Ser	

SEQ ID NO:3:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 208 amino acids

SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: protein

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

Met 1	Ala	Pro	Leu	Gly 5	Glu	Val	Gly	Asn 10	Tyr	Phe	Gly	Val	Gln 15	Asp	Ala
Val	Pro	Phe	Gly 20	Asn	Val	Pro	Val	Leu 25	Pro	Val	Asp	Ser	Pro 30	Val	Leu
Leu	Ser	Asp 35	His	Leu	Gly	Gln	Ser 40	Glu	Ala	Gly	Gly	Leu 45	Pro	Arg	Gly
Pro 50	Ala	Val	Thr	Asp	Leu	Asp 55	His	Leu	Lys	Gly	Ile 60	Leu	Arg	Arg	Arg
Gln 65	Leu	Tyr	Cys	Arg	Thr 70	Gly	Phe	His	Leu	Glu 75	Ile	Phe	Pro	Asn	Gly 80
Thr	Ile	Gln	Gly	Thr 85	Arg	Lys	Asp	His	Ser 90	Arg	Phe	Gly	Ile	Leu	Glu 95

Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly Val Asp Ser
 100 105 110
 Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu Tyr Gly Ser Glu
 115 120 125
 Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp
 130 135 140
 Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg
 145 150 155 160
 Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr
 165 170 175
 Arg Thr Lys Arg His Gln Lys Phe Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val
 180 185 190
 Asp Pro Asp Lys Val Pro Glu Leu Tyr Lys Asp Ile Leu Ser Gln Ser
 195 200 205

SEQ ID NO:4:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 177 amino acids
 SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
 TOPOLOGY: linear
 MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

Ala Pro Ser Asp His Leu Gly Gln Ser Glu Ala Gly Gly Leu Pro Arg
 1 5 10 15
 Gly Pro Ala Val Thr Asp Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg Arg
 20 25 30
 Arg Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro Asn
 35 40 45
 Gly Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile Leu
 50 55 60
 Glu Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly Val Asp
 65 70 75 80
 Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu Tyr Gly Ser
 85 90 95
 Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln Phe Glu Glu Asn
 100 105 110
 Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys His Val Asp Thr Gly
 115 120 125

Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly
 130 135 140

Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg His Gln Lys Phe Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro
 145 150 155 160

Val Asp Pro Asp Lys Val Pro Glu Leu Tyr Lys Asp Ile Leu Ser Gln
 165 170 175

Ser

SEQ ID NO:5:

SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 SEQUENCE LENGTH: 205 amino acids
 TYPE: amino acid
 TOPOLOGY: linear
 MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

Leu Gly Glu Val Gly Asn Tyr Phe Gly Val Gln Asp Ala Val Pro Phe
 1 5 10 15

Gly Asn Val Pro Val Leu Pro Val Asp Ser Pro Val Leu Leu Ser Asp
 20 25 30

His Leu Gly Gln Ser Glu Ala Gly Gly Leu Pro Arg Gly Pro Ala Val
 35 40 45

Thr Asp Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg Arg Arg Gln Leu Tyr
 50 55 60

Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro Asn Gly Thr Ile Gln
 65 70 75 80

Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile Leu Glu Phe Ile Ser
 85 90 95

Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly Val Asp Ser Gly Leu Tyr
 100 105 110

Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu Tyr Gly Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr
 115 120 125

Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr
 130 135 140

Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr
 145 150 155 160

Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys
 165 170 175

Arg His Gln Lys Phe Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val Asp Pro Asp
 180 185 190

Lys Val Pro Glu Leu Tyr Lys Asp Ile Leu Ser Gln Ser
 195 200 205

SEQ ID NO:6:

SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 178 amino acids

TYPE: amino acid

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: protein

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

Met Ala Pro Ser Asp His Leu Gly Gln Ser Glu Ala Gly Gly Leu Pro
 1 5 10 15

Arg Gly Pro Ala Val Thr Asp Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg
 20 25 30

Arg Arg Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro
 35 40 45

Asn Gly Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile
 50 55 60

Leu Glu Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly Val
 65 70 75 80

Asp Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu Tyr Gly
 85 90 95

Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln Phe Glu Glu
 100 105 110

Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys His Val Asp Thr
 115 120 125

Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu
 130 135 140

Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg His Gln Lys Phe Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg
 145 150 155 160

Pro Val Asp Pro Asp Lys Val Pro Glu Leu Tyr Lys Asp Ile Leu Ser
 165 170 175

Gln Ser

SEQ ID NO:7:

SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- 72 -

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 206 amino acids
 TYPE: amino acid
 TOPOLOGY: linear
 MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

Met	Leu	Gly	Glu	Val	Gly	Asn	Tyr	Phe	Gly	Val	Gln	Asp	Ala	Val	Pro	1	5	10	15
Phe	Gly	Asn	Val	Pro	Val	Leu	Pro	Val	Asp	Ser	Pro	Val	Leu	Leu	Ser	20	25	30	
Asp	His	Leu	Gly	Gln	Ser	Glu	Ala	Gly	Gly	Leu	Pro	Arg	Gly	Pro	Ala	35	40	45	
Val	Thr	Asp	Leu	Asp	His	Leu	Lys	Gly	Ile	Leu	Arg	Arg	Arg	Gln	Leu	50	55	60	
Tyr	Cys	Arg	Thr	Gly	Phe	His	Leu	Glu	Ile	Phe	Pro	Asn	Gly	Thr	Ile	65	70	75	80
Gln	Gly	Thr	Arg	Lys	Asp	His	Ser	Arg	Phe	Gly	Ile	Leu	Glu	Phe	Ile	85	90	95	
Ser	Ile	Ala	Val	Gly	Leu	Val	Ser	Ile	Arg	Gly	Val	Asp	Ser	Gly	Leu	100	105	110	
Tyr	Leu	Gly	Met	Asn	Glu	Lys	Gly	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Gly	Ser	Glu	Lys	Leu	115	120	125	
Thr	Gln	Glu	Cys	Val	Phe	Arg	Glu	Gln	Phe	Glu	Glu	Asn	Trp	Tyr	Asn	130	135	140	
Thr	Tyr	Ser	Ser	Asn	Leu	Tyr	Lys	His	Val	Asp	Thr	Gly	Arg	Arg	Tyr	145	150	155	160
Tyr	Val	Ala	Leu	Asn	Lys	Asp	Gly	Thr	Pro	Arg	Glu	Gly	Thr	Arg	Thr	165	170	175	
Lys	Arg	His	Gln	Lys	Phe	Thr	His	Phe	Leu	Pro	Arg	Pro	Val	Asp	Pro	180	185	190	
Asp	Lys	Val	Pro	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Lys	Asp	Ile	Leu	Ser	Gln	Ser	195	200	205			

SEQ ID NO:8:

SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 206 amino acids

TYPE: amino acid

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: protein

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

Met Leu Gly Glu Val Gly Asn Tyr Phe Gly Val Gln Asp Ala Val Pro

- 73 -

1		5		10		15									
Phe	Gly	Asn	Val	Pro	Val	Leu	Pro	Val	Asp	Ser	Pro	Val	Leu	Leu	Ser
		20					25						30		
Asp	His	Leu	Gly	Gln	Ser	Glu	Ala	Gly	Gly	Leu	Pro	Arg	Gly	Pro	Ala
		35					40					45			
Val	Thr	Asp	Leu	Asp	His	Leu	Lys	Gly	Ile	Leu	Arg	Arg	Arg	Gln	Leu
	50					55					60				
Tyr	Cys	Arg	Thr	Gly	Phe	His	Leu	Glu	Ile	Phe	Pro	Asn	Gly	Thr	Ile
65					70					75					80
Gln	Gly	Thr	Arg	Lys	Asp	His	Ser	Arg	Phe	Gly	Ile	Leu	Glu	Phe	Ile
				85					90					95	
Ser	Ile	Ala	Val	Gly	Leu	Val	Ser	Ile	Arg	Gly	Val	Asp	Ser	Gly	Leu
			100					105					110		
Tyr	Leu	Gly	Met	Asn	Glu	Lys	Gly	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Gly	Ser	Glu	Lys	Leu
		115					120					125			
Thr	Gln	Glu	Cys	Val	Phe	Arg	Glu	Gln	Phe	Glu	Glu	Asn	Trp	Tyr	Asn
	130					135					140				
Thr	Tyr	Ser	Ser	Asn	Leu	Tyr	Lys	His	Val	Asp	Thr	Gly	Arg	Arg	Tyr
145					150					155					160
Tyr	Val	Ala	Leu	Asn	Lys	Asp	Gly	Thr	Pro	Arg	Glu	Gly	Thr	Arg	Thr
				165					170					175	
Lys	Arg	His	Gln	Lys	Phe	Thr	His	Phe	Leu	Pro	Arg	Pro	Val	Asp	Pro
			180					185					190		
Asp	Lys	Val	Pro	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Lys	Asp	Ile	Leu	Ser	Gln	Ser		
		195					200					205			

SEQ ID NO:9:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 208 amino acids

SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: protein

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

Met	Ala	Pro	Leu	Gly	Glu	Val	Gly	Asn	Tyr	Phe	Gly	Val	Gln	Asp	Ala
1				5					10					15	
Val	Pro	Phe	Gly	Asn	Val	Pro	Val	Leu	Pro	Val	Asp	Ser	Pro	Val	Leu
			20					25					30		
Leu	Ser	Asp	His	Leu	Gly	Gln	Ser	Glu	Ala	Gly	Gly	Leu	Pro	Arg	Gly
		35					40					45			

Pro Ala Val Thr Asp Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg Arg Arg
50 55 60

Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro Asn Gly
65 70 75 80

Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile Leu Glu
85 90 95

Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly Val Asp Ser
100 105 110

Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu Tyr Gly Ser Glu
115 120 125

Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp
130 135 140

Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg
145 150 155 160

Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr
165 170 175

Arg Thr Lys Arg His Gln Lys Phe Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val
180 185 190

Asp Pro Asp Lys Val Pro Glu Leu Tyr Lys Asp Ile Leu Ser Gln Ser
195 200 205

SEQ ID NO:10:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 426 base pairs
SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid
STRANDEDNESS: double
TOPOLOGY: linear
MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA
HYPOTHETICAL: NO
ANTI-SENSE: NO
SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:

TTGGATCATT TAAAGGGGAT TCTCAGGCGG AGGCAGCTAT ACTGCAGGAC TGGATTTCAC 60

TTAGAAATCT TCCCAATGG TACTATCCAG GGAACCAGGA AAGACCACAG CCGATTTGGC 120

ATTCTGGAAT TTATCAGTAT AGCAGTGGGC CTGGTCAGCA TTCGAGGCGT GGACAGTGGA 180

CTCTACCTCG GGATGAATGA GAAGGGGGAG CTGTATGGAT CAGAAAAACT AACCCAAGAG 240

TGTGTATTCA GAGAACAGTT CGAAGAAAAC TGGTATAATA CGTACTCGTC AAACQTATAT 300

AAGCACGTGG AACTGGAAG GCGATACTAT GTTGCATTAA ATAAAGATGG GACCCCGAGA 360

GAAGGGACTA GGACTAAACG GCACCAGAAA TTCACACATT TTTTACCTAG ACCAGTGGAC 420
CCCGAC 426

SEQ ID NO:11:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 621 base pairs

SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid

STRANDEDNESS: double

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA

HYPOTHETICAL: NO

ANTI-SENSE: NO

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

GCTCCCTTAG GTGAAGTTGG GAACTATTTT GGTGTGCAGG ATGCGGTACC GTTTGGGAAT 60
GTGCCCCGTGT TGCCGGTGGA CAGCCCGGTT TTGTTAAGTG ACCACCTGGG TCAGTCCGAA 120
GCAGGGGGGC TCCCCAGGGG ACCCGCAGTC ACGGACTTGG ATCATTTAAA GGGGATTCTC 180
AGGCGGAGGC AGCTATACTG CAGGACTGGA TTTCACCTAG AAATCTTCCC CAATGGTACT 240
ATCCAGGGAA CCAGGAAAGA CCACAGCCGA TTTGGCATTG TGGAATTTAT CAGTATAGCA 300
GTGGGCCTGG TCAGCATTCG AGGCGTGGAC AGTGGACTCT ACCTCGGGAT GAATGAGAAG 360
GGGGAGCTGT ATGGATCAGA AAAACTAACC CAAGAGTGTG TATTCAGAGA ACAGTTCGAA 420
GAAAACTGGT ATAATACGTA CTCGTCAAAC CTATATAAGC ACGTGGACAC TGGAAGGCCA 480
TACTATGTTG CATTAAATAA AGATGGGACC CCGAGAGAAG GGACTAGGAC TAAACGGCAC 540
CAGAAATTCA CACATTTTTT ACCTAGACCA GTGGACCCCG ACAAAGTACC TGAAGTGTAT 600
AAGGATATTC TAAGCCAAAG T 621

SEQ ID NO:12:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 624 base pairs

SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid

STRANDEDNESS: double

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA

HYPOTHETICAL: NO

ANTI-SENSE: NO

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

ATGGCTCCCT TAGGTGAAGT TGGGAACAT TTCGGTGTGC AGGATGCGGT ACCGTTTGGG 60
AATGTGCCCC TGTTGCCGGT GGACAGCCCG GTTTTGTTAA GTGACCACCT GGGTCAGTCC 120
GAAGCAGGGG GGCTCCCCAG GGGACCCGCA GTCACGGACT TGGATCATTT AAAGGGGATT 180
CTCAGGCGGA GGCAGCTATA CTGCAGGACT GGATTTCACT TAGAAATCTT CCCCAATGGT 240

ACTATCCAGG GAACCAGGAA AGACCACAGC CGATTTGGCA TTCTGGAATT TATCAGTATA	300
GCAGTGGGCC TGGTCAGCAT TCGAGGCGTG GACAGTGGAC TCTACCTCGG GATGAATGAG	360
AAGGGGGAGC TGTATGGATC AGAAAACTA ACCCAAGAGT GTGTATTCAG AGAACAGTTC	420
GAAGAAAAC TGGTATAATAC GTACTCGTCA AACCTATATA AGCACGTGGA CACTGGAAGG	480
CGATACTATG TTGCATTAAA TAAAGATGGG ACCCCGAGAG AAGGGACTAG GACTAAACGG	540
CACCAGAAAT TCACACATTT TTTACCTAGA CCAGTGGACC CCGACAAAGT ACCTGAACTG	600
TATAAGGATA TTCTAAGCCA AAGT	624

SEQ ID NO:13:
SEQUENCE LENGTH: 621 base pairs
SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid
STRANDEDNESS: double
TOPOLOGY: linear
MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA
HYPOTHETICAL: NO
ANTI-SENSE: NO
SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:

GCTCCCTTAG GTGAAGTTGG GAACTATTTT GGTGTGCAGG ATGCGGTACC GTTTGGGAAT	60
GTGCCC GTGT TGCCGGTGG CAGCCCGGT TTGTTAAGTG ACCACCTGGG TCAGTCCGAA	120
GCAGGGGGGC TCCCCAGGGG ACCCGCAGTC ACGGACTTGG ATCATTTAAA GGGGATTCTC	180
AGGCGGAGGC AGCTATACTG CAGGACTGGA TTTCACCTAG AAATCTTCCC CAATGGTACT	240
ATCCAGGGAA CCAGGAAAGA CCACAGCCGA TTTGGCATTG TGGAATTTAT CAGTATAGCA	300
GTGGGCCTGG TCAGCATTCG AGGCGTGGAC AGTGGACTCT ACCTCGGGAT GAATGAGAAG	360
GGGAGCTGT ATGGATCAGA AAAACTAACC CAAGAGTGTG TATTCAGAGA ACAGTTCGAA	420
GAAAACTGGT ATAATACGTA CTCGTCAAAC CTATATAAGC ACGTGGACAC TGGAAGGCGA	480
TACTATGTTG CATTAAATAA AGATGGGACC CCGAGAGAAG GGACTAGGAC TAAACGGCAC	540
CAGAAATTCA CACATTTTTT ACCTAGACCA GTGGACCCCG ACAAAGTACC TGAAGTGTAT	600
AAGGATATTC TAAGCCAAAG T	621

SEQ ID NO:14:
SEQUENCE LENGTH: 621 base pairs
SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid
STRANDEDNESS: double
TOPOLOGY: linear
MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA
HYPOTHETICAL: NO

ANTI-SENSE: NO

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:

GCTCCCTTAG GTGAAGTTGG GAACTATTTTC GGTGTGCAGG ATGCGGTACC GTTTGGGAAT	60
GTGCCCCGTGT TGCCGGTGGA CAGCCCGGTT TTGTTAAGTG ACCACCTGGG TCAGTCCGAA	120
GCAGGGGGGC TCCCCAGGGG ACCCGCAGTC ACGGACTTGG ATCATTTAAA GGGGATTCTC	180
AGGCGGAGGC AGCTATACTG CAGGACTGGA TTTCACCTAG AAATCTTCCC CAATGGTACT	240
ATCCAGGGAA CCAGGAAAGA CCACAGCCGA TTTGGCATTG TGGAAATTTAT CAGTATAGCA	300
GTGGGCCTGG TCAGCATTCG AGGCGTGGAC AGTGGACTCT ACCTCGGGAT GAATGAGAAG	360
GGGAGCTGT ATGGATCAGA AAAACTAACC CAAGAGTGTG TATTCAGAGA ACAGTTCGAA	420
GAAAACTGGT ATAATACGTA CTCGTCAAAC CTATATAAGC ACGTGGACAC TGGAAAGGCGA	480
TACTATGTTG CATTAAATAA AGATGGGACC CCGAGAGAAG GGACTAGGAC TAAACGGCAC	540
CAGAAATTCA CACATTTTTT ACCTAGACCA GTGGACCCCG ACAAAGTACC TGAAGTGTAT	600
AAGGATATTC TAAGCCAAAG T	621

SEQ ID NO:15:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 624 base pairs

SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid

STRANDEDNESS: double

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:15:

ATGGCTCCCT TAGGTGAAGT TGGGAACATAT TTCGGTGTGC AGGATGCGGT ACCGTTTGGG	60
AATGTGCCCC TGTTGCCGGT GGACAGCCCC GTTTTGTAA GTGACCACCT GGGTCAGTCC	120
GAAGCAGGGG GGCTCCCCAG GGGACCCGCA GTCACGGACT TGGATCATTT AAAGGGGATT	180
CTCAGGCGGA GGCAGCTATA CTGCAGGACT GGATTTCACT TAGAAATCTT CCCCAATGGT	240
ACTATCCAGG GAACCAGGAA AGACCACAGC CGATTTGGCA TTCTGGAATT TATCAGTATA	300
GCAGTGGGCC TGGTCAGCAT TCGAGGCGTG GACAGTGGAC TCTACCTCGG GATGAATGAG	360
AAGGGGGAGC TGTATGGATC AGAAAACTA ACCCAAGAGT GTGTATTCAG AGAACAGTTC	420
GAAGAAAACT GGTATAATAC GTACTCGTCA AACCTATATA AGCACGTGGA CACTGGAAGG	480
CGATACTATG TTGCATTAAA TAAAGATGGG ACCCGAGAG AAGGGACTAG GACTAAACGG	540
CACCAGAAAT TCACACATTT TTTACCTAGA CCAGTGGACC CCGACAAAGT ACCTGAACTG	600
TATAAGGATA TTCTAAGCCA AAGT	624

- 78 -

SEQ ID NO:16:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 21 amino acids

SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: protein

HYPOTHETICAL: NO

ANTI-SENSE: NO

FRAGMENT TYPE: N-terminal

ORIGINAL SOURCE

(A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

(B) HAPLO TYPE: 2n

(C) TISSUE TYPE: brain

(D) CELL TYPE: glioma

(E) CELL LINE: NMC-G1

(V) FEATURE

(A) LOCATION

3 Xaa= His or Pro

14 Xaa= undetermined

(B) IDENTIFICATION METHOD: E

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:16:

Ala	Asp	Xaa	Leu	Gly	Gln	Ser	Glu	Ala	Gly	Gly	Leu	Pro	Xaa	Gly	Pro
1				5					10					15	

Ala	Val	Thr	Asp	Leu
				20

SEQ ID NO:17:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 13 amino acids

SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: protein

HYPOTHETICAL: NO

ANTI-SENSE: NO

FRAGMENT TYPE: N-terminal

ORIGINAL SOURCE

(A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

(B) HAPLO TYPE: 2n

(C) TISSUE TYPE: brain

(D) CELL TYPE: glioma

(E) CELL LINE: NMC-G1

FEATURE

(A) LOCATION

1 Xaa= undetermined

12 (Ser)= predicted

(B) IDENTIFICATION METHOD: E

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:17:

Xaa	Gln	Asp	Ala	Val	Pro	Phe	Gly	Asn	Val	Pro	Ser	Leu
1				5				10				

SEQ ID NO:18:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 23 amino acids
 SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
 TOPOLOGY: linear
 MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 HYPOTHETICAL: NO
 ANTI-SENSE: NO
 FRAGMENT TYPE: N-terminal
 ORIGINAL SOURCE
 (A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 (B) HAPLO TYPE: 2n
 (C) TISSUE TYPE: brain
 (D) CELL TYPE: glioma
 (E) CELL LINE: NMC-G1

FEATURE

(A) LOCATION
 1 Xaa= Leu or Ala
 20 (Pro)= predicted
 21 Xaa= undetermined
 (B) IDENTIFICATION METHOD: E

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:18:

Xaa	Gly	Glu	Val	Gly	Asn	Tyr	Phe	Gly	Val	Gln	Asp	Ala	Val	Pro	Phe
1				5				10						15	
Gly Asn Val Pro Xaa Leu Leu															
20															

SEQ ID NO:19:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 25 base pairs
 SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid
 STRANDEDNESS: single
 TOPOLOGY: linear
 MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid, synthetic DNA
 HYPOTHETICAL: YES
 ANTI-SENSE: NO
 ORIGINAL SOURCE

(A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
 FEATURE

(A) 11, 14 I=inosine

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:19:

AAGGATCCGT IGGIAAYTAY TTYGG

25

SEQ ID NO:20:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 25 base pairs
 SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid
 STRANDEDNESS: single
 TOPOLOGY: linear
 MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid, synthetic DNA
 HYPOTHETICAL: YES

ANTI-SENSE: YES

FEATURE

(A) 14, 20, 23 I=inosine

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:20:

AAGAATTCAC RTTICCRAAI GGIAC

25

SEQ ID NO:21:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 59 base pairs

SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid

STRANDEDNESS: double

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid, PCR product from genomic DNA

HYPOTHETICAL: NO

ANTI-SENSE: NO

ORIGIANAL SOURCE

(A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:21:

GGATCCGTGG GGAAC TATTT CGGGGTGCAG GATGCGGTCC CCTTCGGCAA CGTGAATTC

59

SEQ ID NO:22:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 30 base pairs

SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid

STRANDEDNESS: single

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid, synthetic DNA

HYPOTHETICAL: YES

ANTI-SENSE: NO

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:22:

TGGGGA ACTA TTTCGGGGTG CAGGATGCGG

30

SEQ ID NO:23:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 30 base pairs

SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid

STRANDEDNESS: single

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid, synthetic DNA

HYPOTHETICAL: YES

ANTI-SENSE: YES

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:23:

ACGTTGCCGA AGGGGACCGC ATCCTGCACC

30

SEQ ID NO:24

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 1493 base pairs

SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid

STRANDEDNESS: double

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA

HYPOTHETICAL: NO

ANTI-SENSE: NO

ORIGINAL SOURCE

(A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

(B) HAPLO TYPE: 2n

(C) TISSUE TYPE: skin

(D) CELL TYPE: fibroblast

(V) IMMEDIATE SOURCE

(A) LIBRARY: Human foreskin cDNA library

(B) CLONE: pGAF1

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:24:

TGAAACAGCA GATTACTTTT ATTTATGCAT TTAATGGATT GAAGAAAAGA ACCTTTTTTTT	60
TTCTCTCTCT CTCTGCAACT GCAGTAAGGG AGGGGAGTTG GATATACCTC GCCTAATATC	120
TCCTGGGTTG ACACCATCAT TATTGTTTAT TCTTGTGCTC CAAAAGCCGA GTCCTCTGAT	180
GGCTCCCTTA GGTGAAGTTG GGAAC TATTT CGGTGTGCAG GATGCGGTAC CGTTTGGGAA	240
TGTGCCCCGTG TTGCCGGTGG ACAGCCCGGT TTTGTTAAGT GACCACCTGG GTCAGTCCGA	300
AGCAGGGGGG CTCCCCAGGG GACCCGCAGT CACGGACTTG GATCATTTAA AGGGGATTCT	360
CAGGCGGAGG CAGCTATACT GCAGGACTGG ATTTCACTTA GAAATCTTCC CCAATGGTAC	420
TATCCAGGGA ACCAGGAAAG ACCACAGCCG ATTTGGCATT CTGGAATTTA TCAGTATAGC	480
AGTGGGCCTG GTCAGCATTC GAGGCGTGGA CAGTGGACTC TACCTCGGGA TGAATGAGAA	540
GGGGGAGCTG TATGGATCAG AAAAATAAC CCAAGAGTGT GTATTCAGAG AACAGTTCGA	600
AGAAAATACTG TATAATACGT ACTCGTCAA CCTATATAAG CACGTGGACA CTGGAAGGCG	660
ATACTATGTT GCATTAAATA AAGATGGGAC CCCGAGAGAA GGGACTAGGA CTAAACGGCA	720
CCAGAAATTC ACACATTTTTT TACCTAGACC AGTGGACCCC GACAAAGTAC CTGAACTGTA	780
TAAGGATATT CTAAGCCAAA GTTGACAAAG ACAATTTCTT CACTTGAGCC CTTAAAAAAG	840
TAACCACTAT AAAGGTTTCA CGCGGTGGGT TCTTATTGAT TCGCTGTGTC ATCACATCAG	900
CTCCACTGTT GCCAACTTTT GTCGCATGCA TAATGTATGA TGGAGGCTTG GATGGGAATA	960
TGCTGATTTT GTTCTGCACT TAAAGGCTTC TCCTCCTGGA GGGCTGCCTA GGGCCACTTG	1020
CTTGATTTAT CATGAGAGAA GAGGAGAGAG AGAGAGACTG AGCGCTAGGA GTGTGTGTAT	1080
GTGTGTGTGT GTGTGTGTGT GTGTGTGTGT ATGTGTGTAG CGGGAGATGT GGGCGGAGCG	1140
AGAGCAAAAG GACTGCGGCC TGATGCATGC TGGAAAAAGA CACGCTTTTC ATTTCTGATC	1200
AGTTGTACTT CATCCTATAT CAGCACAGCT GCCATACTTC GACTTATCAG GATTCTGGCT	1260
GGTGGCCTGC GCGAGGGTGC AGTCTTACTT AAAAGACTTT CAGTTAATTC TCACTGGTAT	1320

CATCGCAGTG AACTTAAAGC AAAGACCTCT TAGTAAAAAA TAAAAAATAA 1380
 AAATAAAAAA AGTTAAATTT ATTTATAGAA ATTCCAAAAA AAAAAAATAA 1440
 AAAAAAATAA AAAAAAATAA AAAAAAATAA AAAAAAATAA AAAAAAATAA AAA 1493

SEQ ID NO:25:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 208 amino acids

SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: protein

HYPOTHETICAL: NO

ORIGINAL SOURCE

(A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

(B) HAPLO TYPE: 2n

(C) TISSUE TYPE: skin

(D) CELL TYPE: fibroblast

(V) IMMEDIATE SOURCE

(A) LIBRARY: Human foreskin cDNA library

(B) CLONE: pGAF1

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:25:

Met Ala Pro Leu Gly Glu Val Gly Asn Tyr Phe Gly Val Gln Asp Ala
 1 5 10 15
 Val Pro Phe Gly Asn Val Pro Val Leu Pro Val Asp Ser Pro Val Leu
 20 25 30
 Leu Ser Asp His Leu Gly Gln Ser Glu Ala Gly Gly Leu Pro Arg Gly
 35 40 45
 Pro Ala Val Thr Asp Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg Arg Arg
 50 55 60
 Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro Asn Gly
 65 70 75 80
 Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile Leu Glu
 85 90 95
 Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly Val Asp Ser
 100 105 110
 Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu Tyr Gly Ser Glu
 115 120 125
 Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp
 130 135 140
 Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg
 145 150 155 160
 Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr
 165 170 175

- 83 -

Arg	Thr	Lys	Arg	His	Gln	Lys	Phe	Thr	His	Phe	Leu	Pro	Arg	Pro	Val
			180					185					190		
Asp	Pro	Asp	Lys	Val	Pro	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Lys	Asp	Ile	Leu	Ser	Gln	Ser
		195					200					205			

SEQ ID NO:26:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 47 base pairs

SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid

STRANDEDNESS: single

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid, synthetic DNA

HYPOTHETICAL: NO

ANTI-SENSE: NO

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:26:

TATGTTAGGT GAAGTTGGGA ACTATTTTCGG TGTGCAGGAT GCGGTAC

47

SEQ ID NO:27:

SEQUENCE LENGTH: 41 base pairs

SEQUENCE TYPE: nucleic acid

STRANDEDNESS: single

TOPOLOGY: linear

MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid, synthetic DNA

HYPOTHETICAL: NO

ANTI-SENSE: YES

SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:27:

CGCATCCTGC ACACCGAAAT AGTTCCCAAC TTCACCTAAC A .

41

27580-73

- 84 -

CLAIMS:

1. A glia activating factor which contains a polypeptide represented by the following amino acid sequence:

5 Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg Arg Arg
 Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro Asn
 Gly Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile
 Leu Glu Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly
 Val Asp Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu
 10 Tyr Gly Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln
 Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys
 His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp
 Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg His Gln Lys Phe
 Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val Asp Pro Asp, or

15 a mutein thereof, wherein the mutein has an amino acid sequence substantially identical to the above amino acid sequence and also has growth promoting activity upon glial cells.

2. A glia activating factor which contains a polypeptide represented by the following amino acid sequence:

 Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg Arg Arg
 Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro Asn
 Gly Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile
 25 Leu Glu Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly
 Val Asp Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu
 Tyr Gly Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln

27580-73

- 85 -

Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys
 His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp
 Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg His Gln Lys Phe
 Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val Asp Pro Asp, or

5 a mutein thereof having an amino acid sequence
 substantially identical to the above amino acid sequence,
 each of the glia activating factor and the mutein having the
 following characteristics:

(a) the glia activating factor or mutein does not
 10 exhibit any immunological cross reaction with platelet-
 derived growth factor (PDGF), acidic fibroblast growth
 factor (aFGF) or basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF); and

(b) the glia activating factor or mutein displays
 growth promoting activity upon glial cells, fibroblasts and
 15 rat phenochromocytome PC-12 cells.

3. The glia activating factor according to claim 1 or
 2, wherein the polypeptide is represented by the following
 amino acid sequence:

(Met)_n-X₁-Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg Arg Arg Gln Leu
 20 Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro Asn Gly Thr
 Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile Leu Glu
 Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly Val Asp
 Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu Tyr Gly
 Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln Phe Glu
 25 Glu Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys His Val
 Asp Thr Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp Gly Thr
 Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg His Gln Lys Phe Thr His
 Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val Asp Pro Asp-X₂

27580-73

- 86 -

wherein:

n is 0 or 1;

X₁ represents:

Ala Pro Leu Gly Glu Val Gly Asn Tyr Phe Gly Val
 5 Gln Asp Ala Val Pro Phe Gly Asn Val Pro Val Leu Pro Val Asp
 Ser Pro Val Leu Leu Ser Asp His Leu Gly Gln Ser Glu Ala Gly
 Gly Leu Pro Arg Gly Pro Ala Val Thr Asp or

a fragment thereof; and

X₂ represents:

10 Lys Val Pro Glu Leu Tyr Lys Asp Ile Leu Ser Gln
 Ser or a fragment thereof.

4. The glia activating factor according to claim 3,
 wherein X₁ represents Ser Asp His Leu Gly Gln Ser Glu Ala Gly
 Gly Leu Pro Arg Gly Pro Ala Val Thr Asp; and

15 X₂ represents Lys Val Pro Glu Leu Tyr Lys Asp Ile
 Leu Ser Gln Ser.

5. The glia activating factor according to claim 1 or
 2, wherein the polypeptide is represented by the following
 amino acid sequence:

20 (Met)_n-X₃-Ser Asp His Leu Gly Gln Ser Glu Ala Gly Gly Leu Pro
 Arg Gly Pro Ala Val Thr Asp Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu
 Arg Arg Arg Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile
 Phe Pro Asn Gly Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg
 Phe Gly Ile Leu Glu Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser
 25 Ile Arg Gly Val Asp Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys
 Gly Glu Leu Tyr Gly Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe
 Arg Glu Gln Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn
 Leu Tyr Lys His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu

27580-73

- 87 -

Asn Lys Asp Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg His
 Gln Lys Phe Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val Asp Pro Asp Lys
 Val Pro Glu Leu Tyr Lys Asp Ile Leu Ser Gln Ser

wherein:

5 n is 0 or 1; and

X₃ represents:

Ala Pro, or

Leu Gly Glu Val Gly Asn Tyr Phe Gly Val Gln Asp
 Ala Val Pro Phe Gly Asn Val Pro Val Leu Pro Val Asp Ser Pro
 10 Val Leu Leu or a fragment thereof.

6. A DNA comprising a polynucleotide coding for a
 glia activating factor according to any one of claims 1
 to 5.

7. A DNA comprising a polynucleotide which codes for
 15 a glia activating factor and is represented by SEQ ID NO: 10
 having the following nucleotide sequence:

TTG GATCATTTAA AGGGGATTCT
 CAGGCGGAGG CAGCTATACT GCAGGACTGG ATTTCACTTA GAAATCTTCC
 CCAATGGTAC TATCCAGGGA ACCAGGAAAG ACCACAGCCG ATTTGGCATT
 20 CTGGAATTTA TCAGTATAGC AGTGGGCCTG CTCAGCATTC GAGGCGTGGA
 CAGTGGACTC TACCTCGGGA TGAATGAGAA GGGGGAGCTG TATGGATCAG
 AAAAATAAC CCAAGAGTGT GTATTCAGAG AACAGTTCGA AGAAAATACTGG
 TATAATACGT ACTCGTCAAA CCTATATAAG CACGTGGACA CTGGAAGGCCG
 ATACTATGTT GCATTAAATA AAGATGGGAC CCCGAGAGAA GGGACTAGGA
 25 CTAAACGGCA CCAGAAATTC ACACATTTTTT TACCTAGACC AGTGGACCCC
 GAC.

27580-73

- 88 -

8. A DNA comprising a polynucleotide which codes for a glia activating factor and is represented by SEQ ID NO: 11 having the following nucleotide sequence:

Y₁-TTG GATCATTTAA AGGGGATTCT CAGGCGGAGG
 5 CAGCTATACT GCAGGACTGG ATTTCACTTA GAAATCTTCC CCAATGGTAC
 TATCCAGGGA ACCAGGAAAG ACCACAGCCG ATTTGGCATT CTGGAATTTA
 TCAGTATAGC AGTGGGCCTG GTCAGCATTC GAGGCGTGGA CAGTGGACTC
 TACCTCGGGA TGAATGAGAA GGGGGAGCTG TATGGATCAG AAAAATAAC
 CCAAGAGTGT GTATTCAGAG AACAGTTCGA AGAAAATCTG TATAATACGT
 10 ACTCGTCAAA CCTATATAAG CACGTGGACA CTGGAAGGCG ATACTATGTT
 GCATTAAATA AAGATGGGAC CCCGAGAGAA GGGACTAGGA CTAAACGGCA
 CCAGAAATTC ACACATTTTTT TACCTAGACC AGTGGACCCC GAC-Y₂;
 wherein Y₁ represents GCTCCCTTA GGTGAAGTTG GGAAGTATTT
 CGGTGTGCAG GATGCGGTAC CGTTTGGGAA TGTGCCCCGTG TTGCCGGTGG
 15 ACAGCCCCGGT TTTGTTAAGT GACCACCTGG GTCAGTCCGA AGCAGGGGGG
 CTCCCCAGGG GACCCGCAGT CACGGAC or a fragment thereof; and
 Y₂ represents AAAGTAC CTGAACTGTA TAAGGATATT CTAAGCCAAA GT
 or a fragment thereof,
 or a nucleotide sequence having an initiation codon ATG at
 20 the 5'-terminus thereof.

9. A DNA comprising a polynucleotide which codes for a glia activating factor and is represented by SEQ ID NO: 3 having the following nucleotide sequence:

27580-73

- 89 -

Y₃-AGT GACCACCTGG GTCAGTCCGA
 AGCAGGGGGG CTCCCCAGGG GACCCGCAGT CACGGACTTG GATCATTTAA
 AGGGGATTCT CAGGCGGAGG CAGCTATACT GCAGGACTGG ATTTCACTTA
 GAAATCTTCC CCAATGGTAC TATCCAGGGA ACCAGGAAAG ACCACAGCCG
 5 ATTTGGCATT CTGGAATTTA TCAGTATAGC AGTGGGCCTG GTCAGCATTC
 GAGGCGTGGA CAGTGGACTC TACCTCGGGA TGAATGAGAA GGGGGAGCTG
 TATGGATCAG AAAAATAAC CCAAGAGTGT GTATTCAGAG AACAGTTCGA
 AGAAAATCTGG TATAATACGT ACTCGTCAAA CCTATATAAG CACGTGGACA
 CTGGAAGGCG ATACTATGTT GCATTAAATA AAGATGGGAC CCCGAGAGAA
 10 GGGACTAGGA CTAAACGGCA CCAGAAATTC ACACATTTTT TACCTAGACC
 AGTGGACCCC GACAAAGTAC CTGAACTGTA TAAGGATATT CTAAGCCAAA GT
 wherein Y₃ represents GCTCCCTTA GGTGAAGTTG GGAAGTATTT
 CGGTGTGCAG GATGCGGTAC CGTTTGGGAA TGTGCCCGTG TTGCCGGTGG
 ACAGCCCGGT TTTGTTA or a fragment thereof,
 15 or a nucleotide sequence having an initiation codon ATG at
 the 5'-terminus thereof.

10. A cellular transformant having a vector comprising
 the DNA defined in any one of claims 6 to 9.

11. A method for producing the glia activating factor
 20 as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5, which comprises:

transforming a cellular host with the DNA as
 defined in any one of claims 6 to 9,

cultivating the obtained transformed cell in a
 medium,

25 accumulating the glia activating factor in a
 culture broth, and

collecting the resulting glia activating factor.

27580-73

- 90 -

12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a therapeutically effective amount of a glia activating factor according to any one of claims 1 to 5 and
a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

5 13. The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the composition is for promoting an increase in the number of platelets.

14. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12, wherein the composition is for the treatment or the
10 improvement of cerebral lesion.

15. Use of a glia activating factor as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5 for producing a medicament for promoting an increase in the number of platelets.

16. Use of a glia activating factor as defined in any
15 one of claims 1 to 5 for producing a medicament for the treatment or the improvement of Alzheimer's disease.

17. Use of a glia activating factor as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5 for producing a medicament for the treatment or the improvement of cerebral lesion, cerebral
20 edema, senile dementia or diabetic neuropathies.

18. E. coli K12 DH1/pGAF1 (FERM BP-3547).

19. E. coli MM294 (DE-3)/pLysS, pETGAF1 (FERM BP-3689).

20. The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 12, which is for treatment or improvement of Alzheimer's
25 disease.

21. The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim

27580-73

- 91 -

12, which is for treatment or improvement of cerebral lesion, cerebral edema, senile dementia or diabetic neuropathies.

FETHERSTONHAUGH & CO.

OTTAWA, CANADA

PATENT AGENTS

Fig. 1

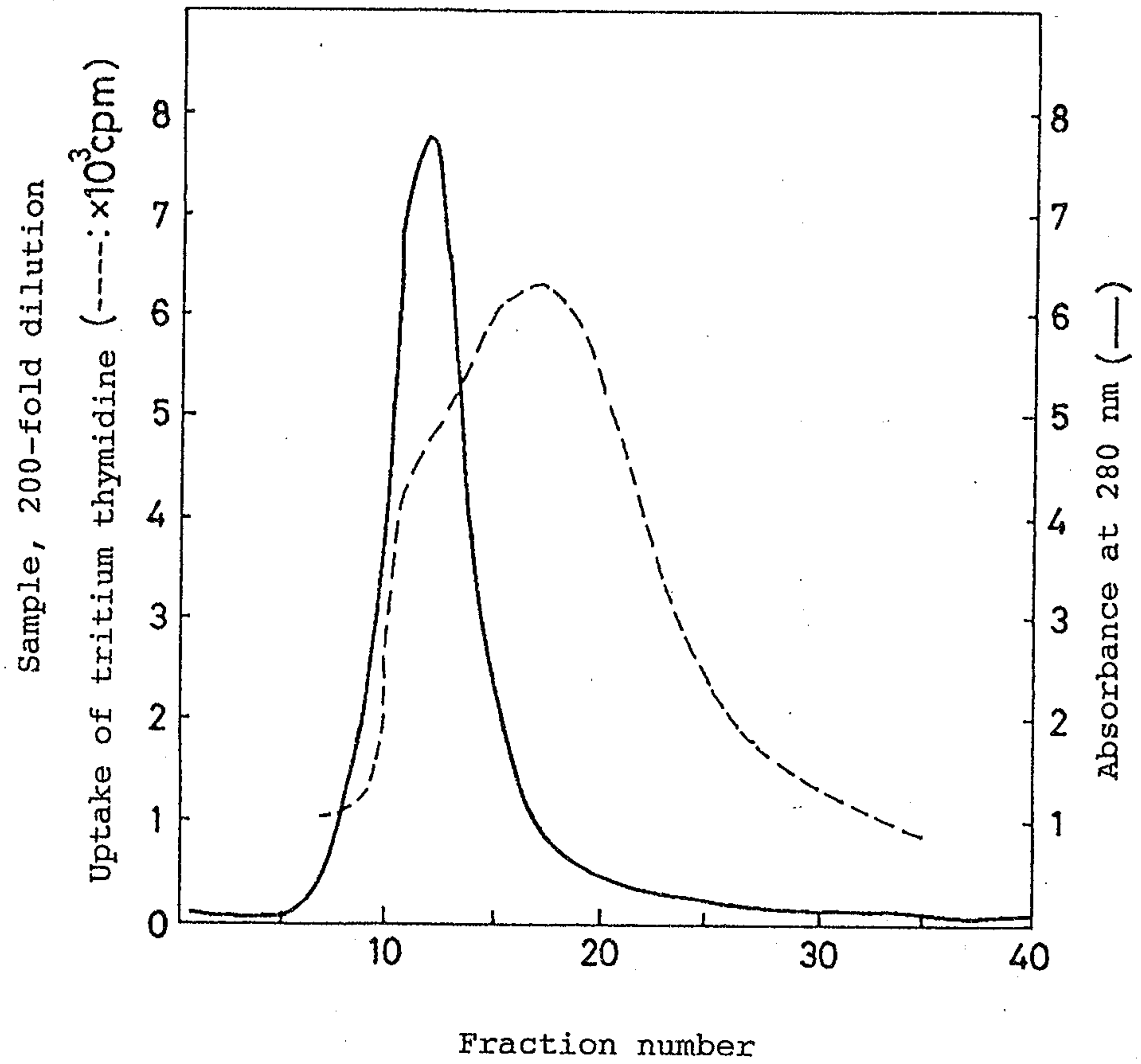


Fig. 2

Uptake of tritium thymidine ($\times 10^3 \text{cpm}$) -----
Sample, 100-fold dilution

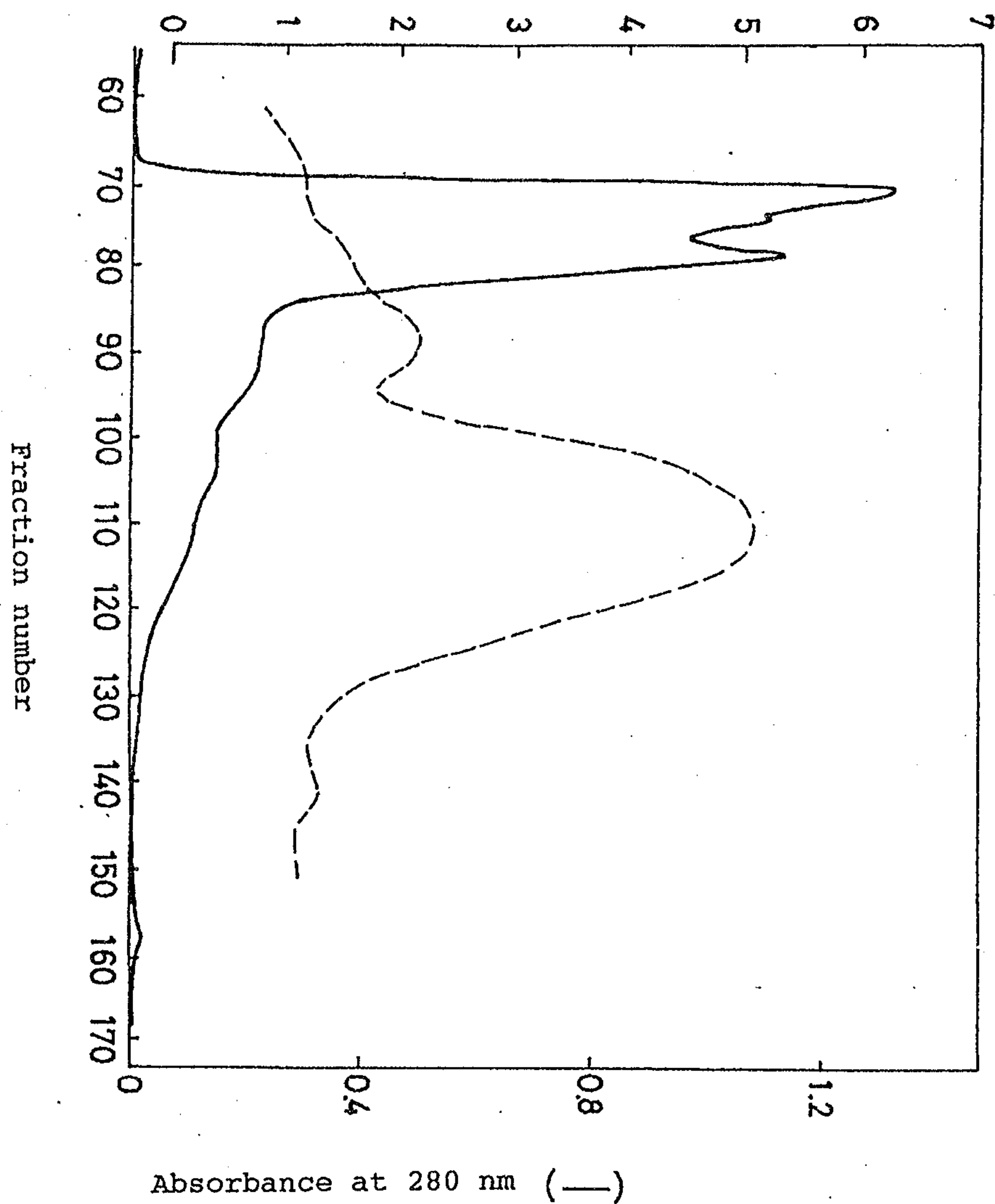
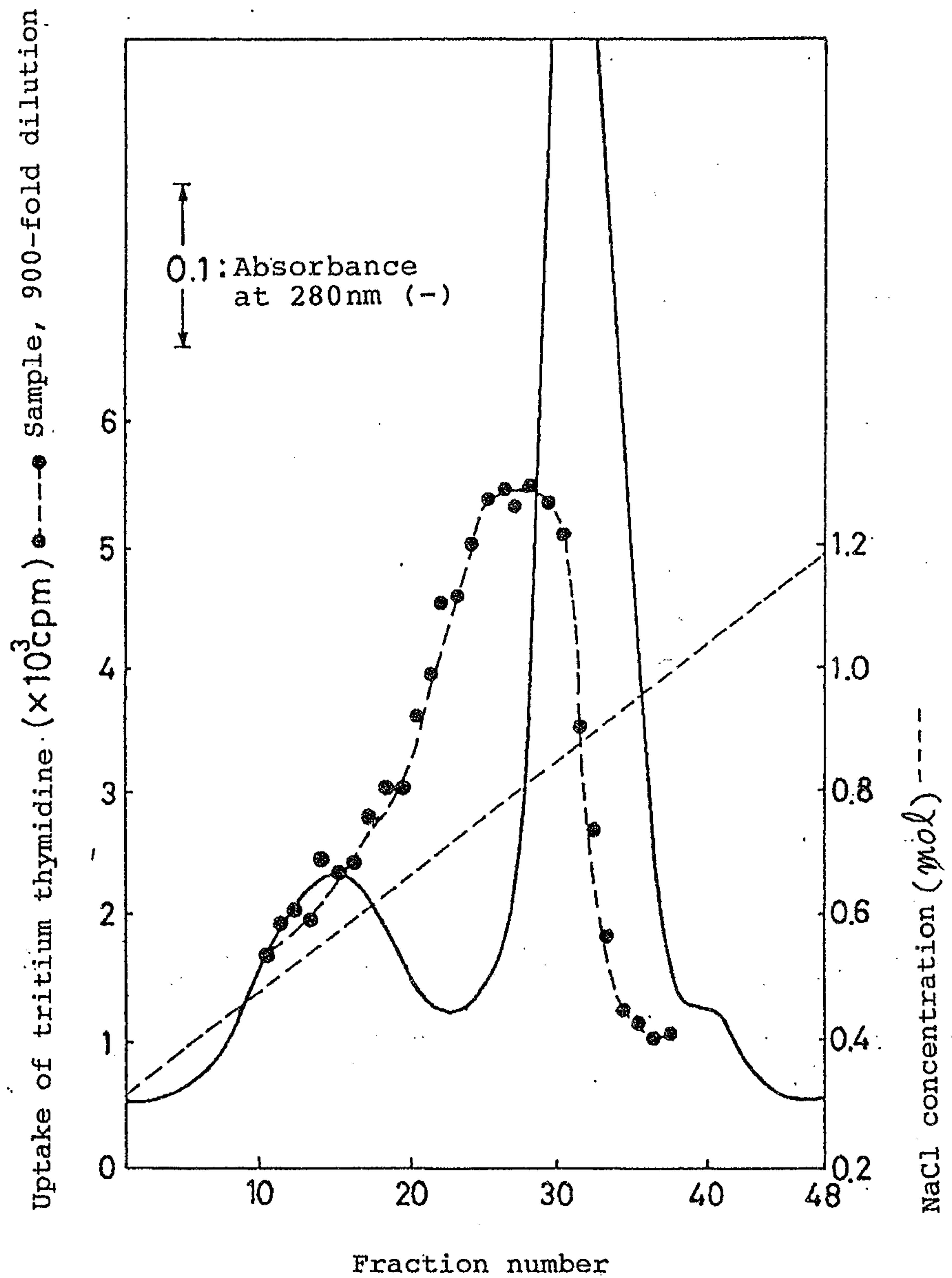


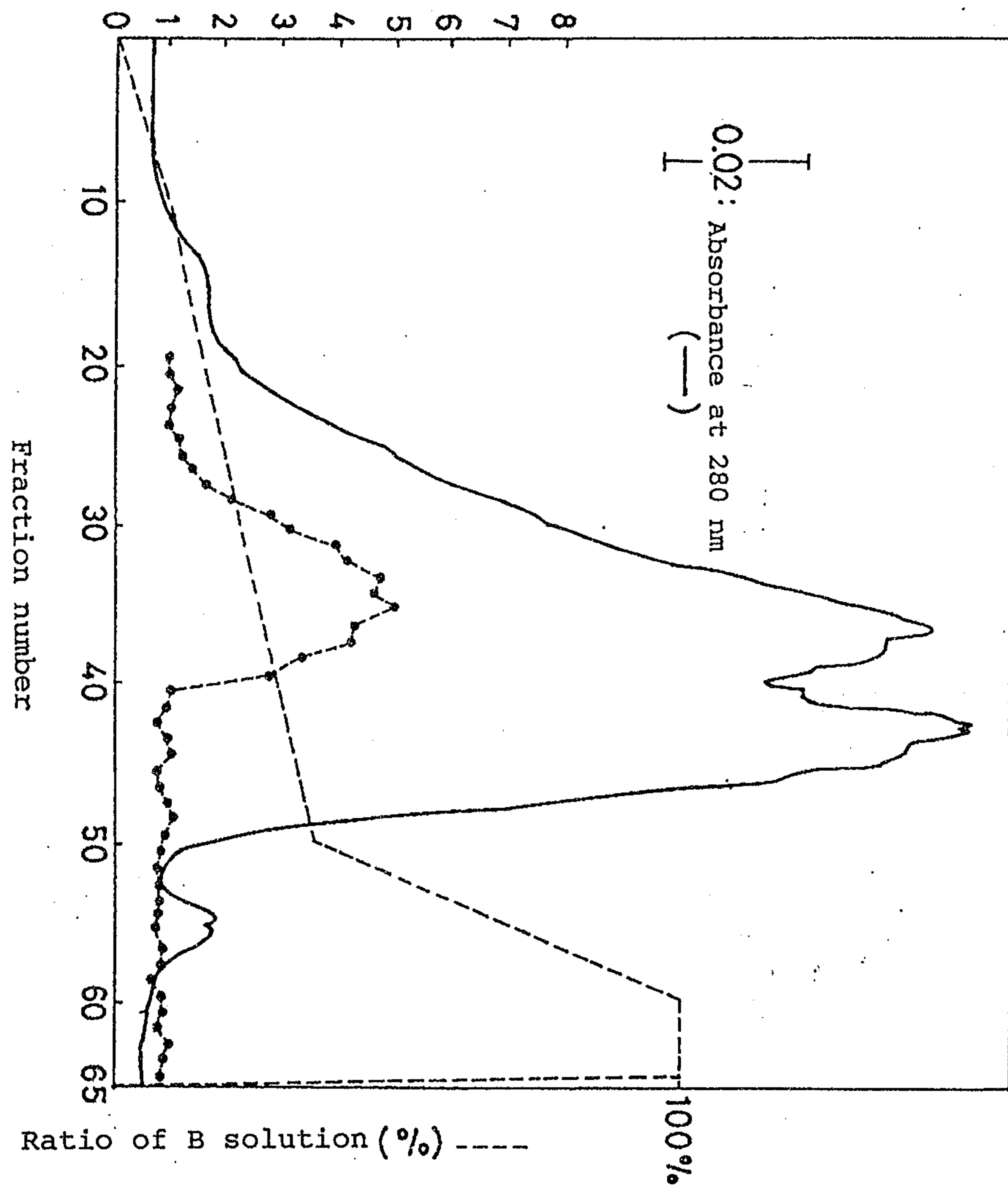
Fig. 3



2061148

Fig. 4

Uptake of tritium thymidine ($\times 10^3$ cpm) •---•
 Sample, 2700-fold dilution



Patent Agents
 J. H. H. H. H. Co.

Fig. 5

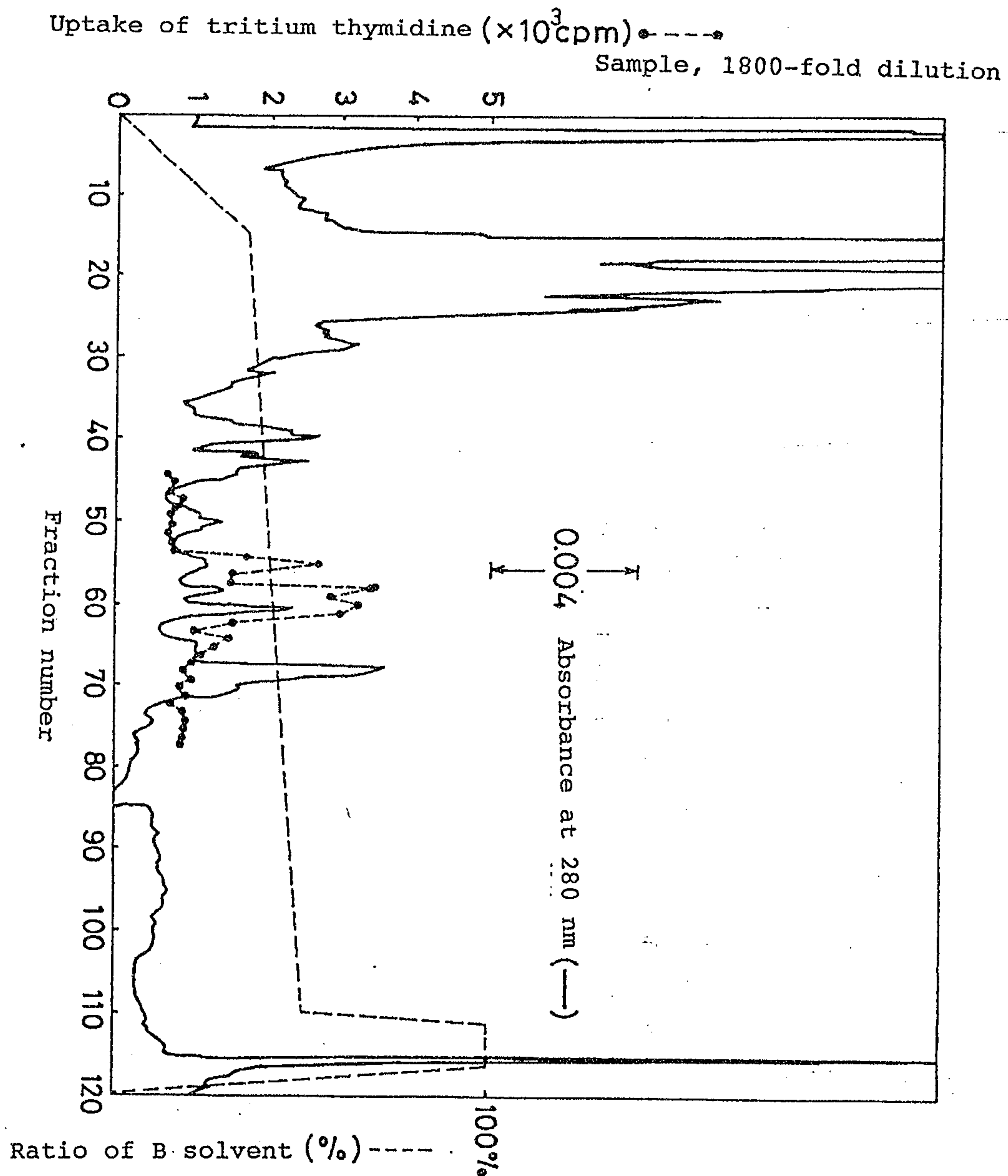
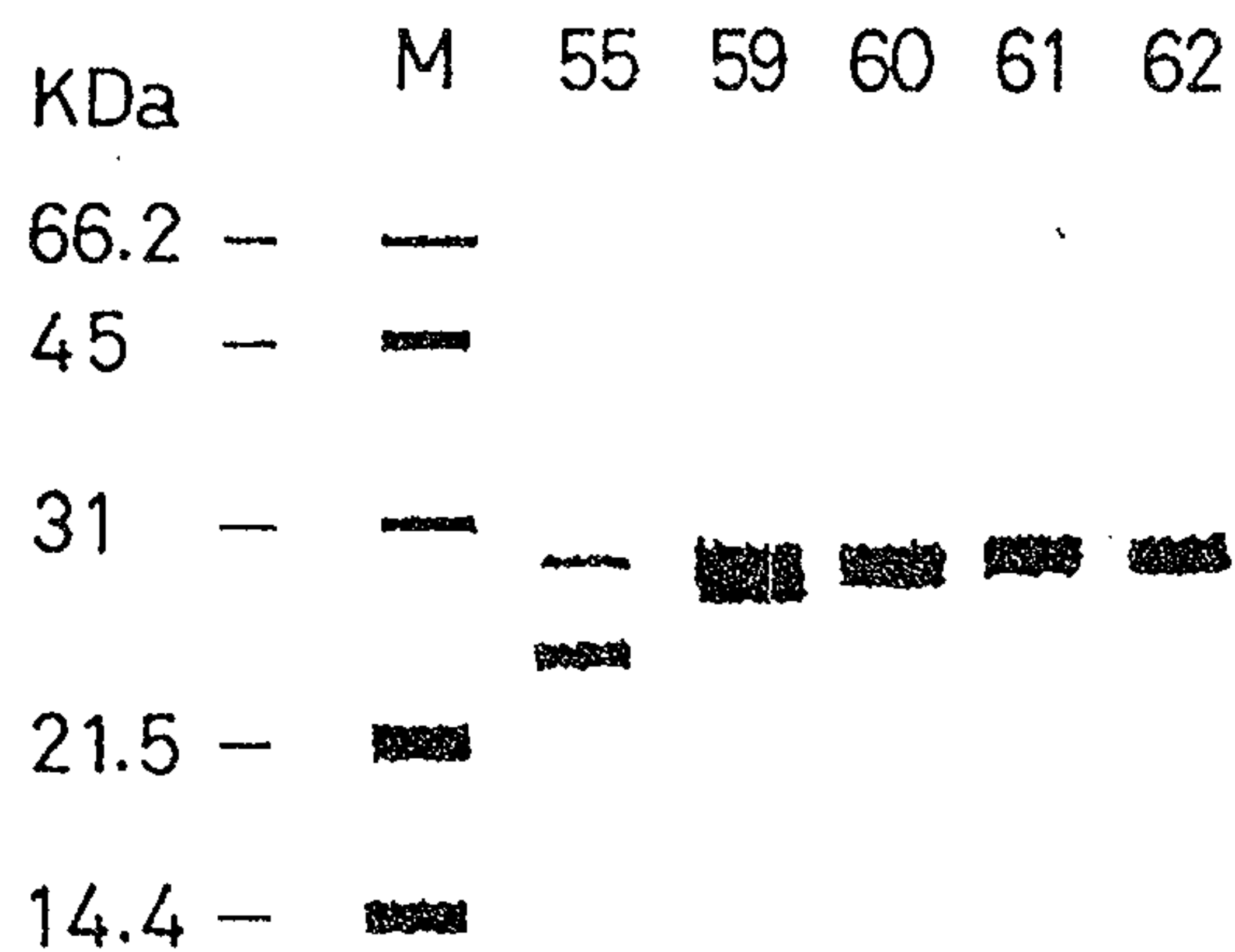


Fig. 6

Fraction number



M: Standard protein

Fig. 7

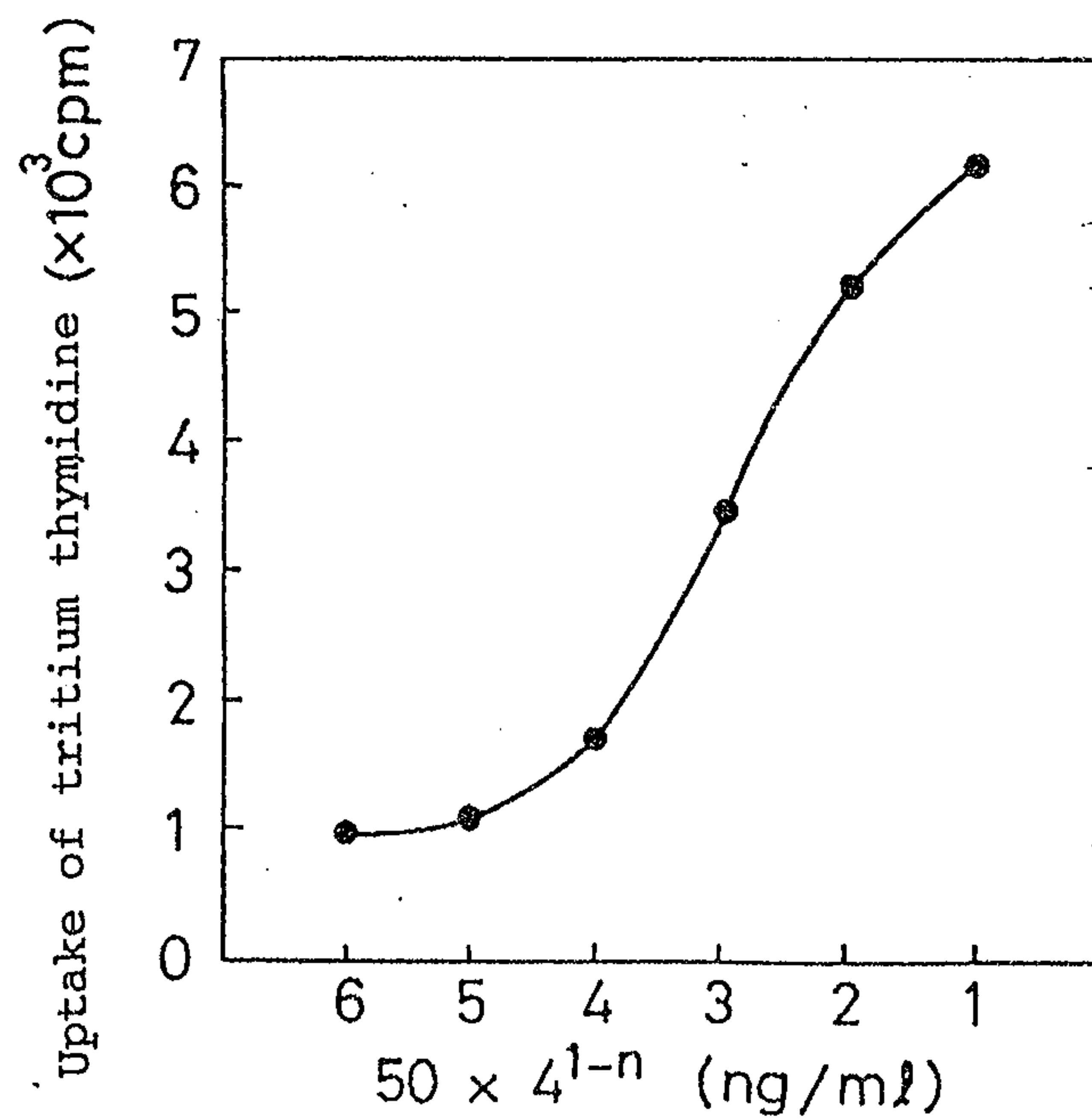


Fig. 8

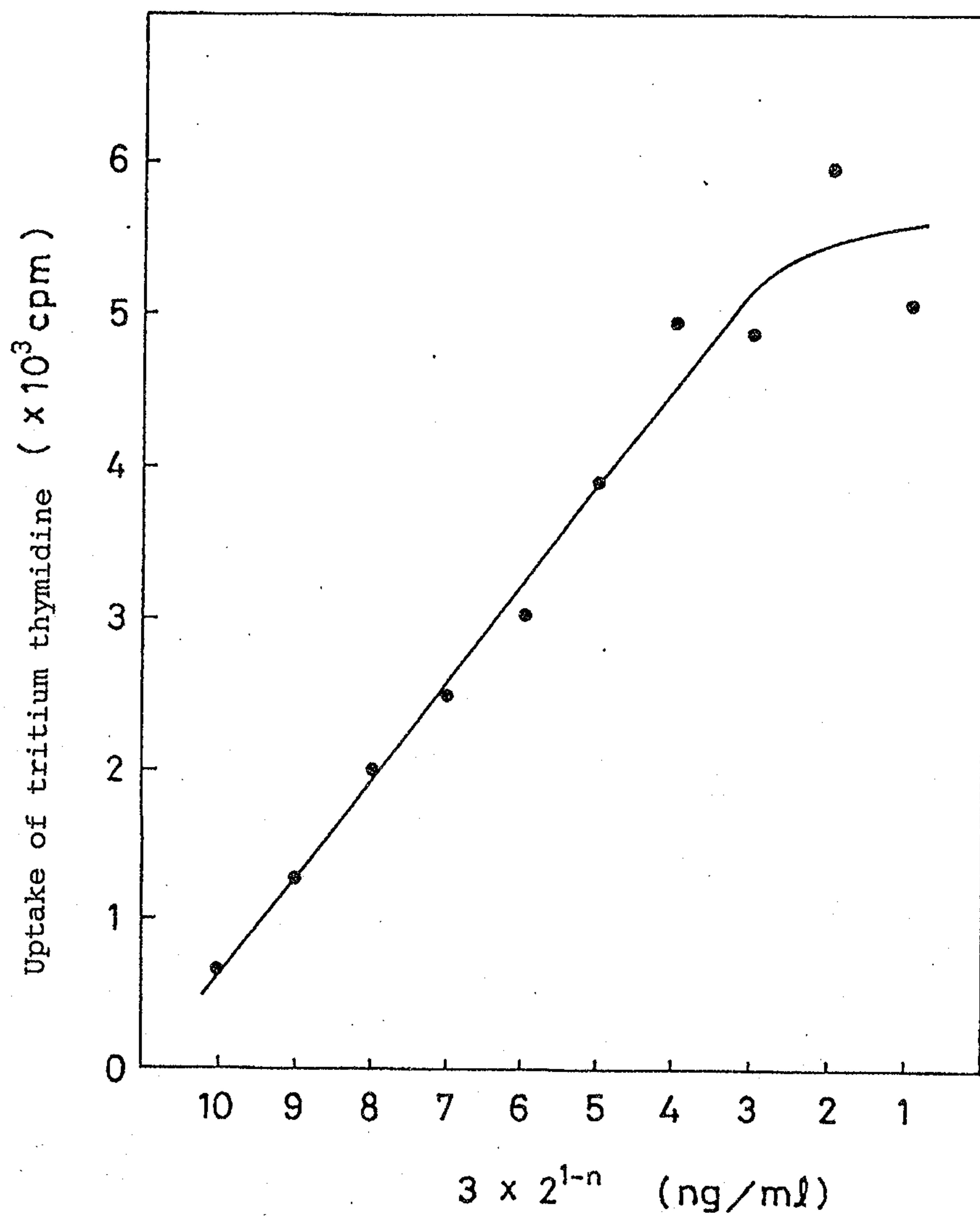
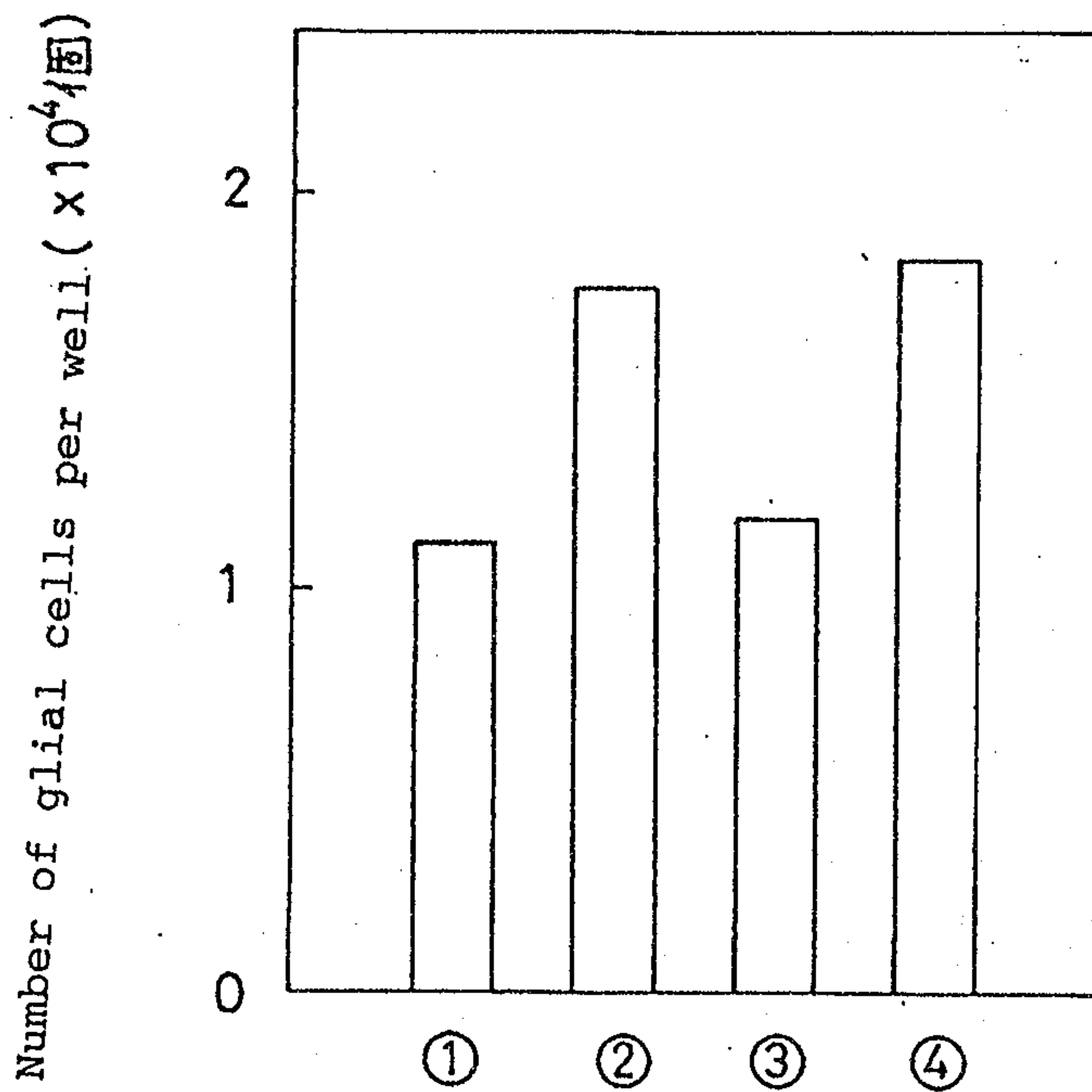


Fig. 9



- ① Control group
- ② GAF addition group
- ③ Heparin addition group
- ④ GAF and heparin addition group

Fig. 10

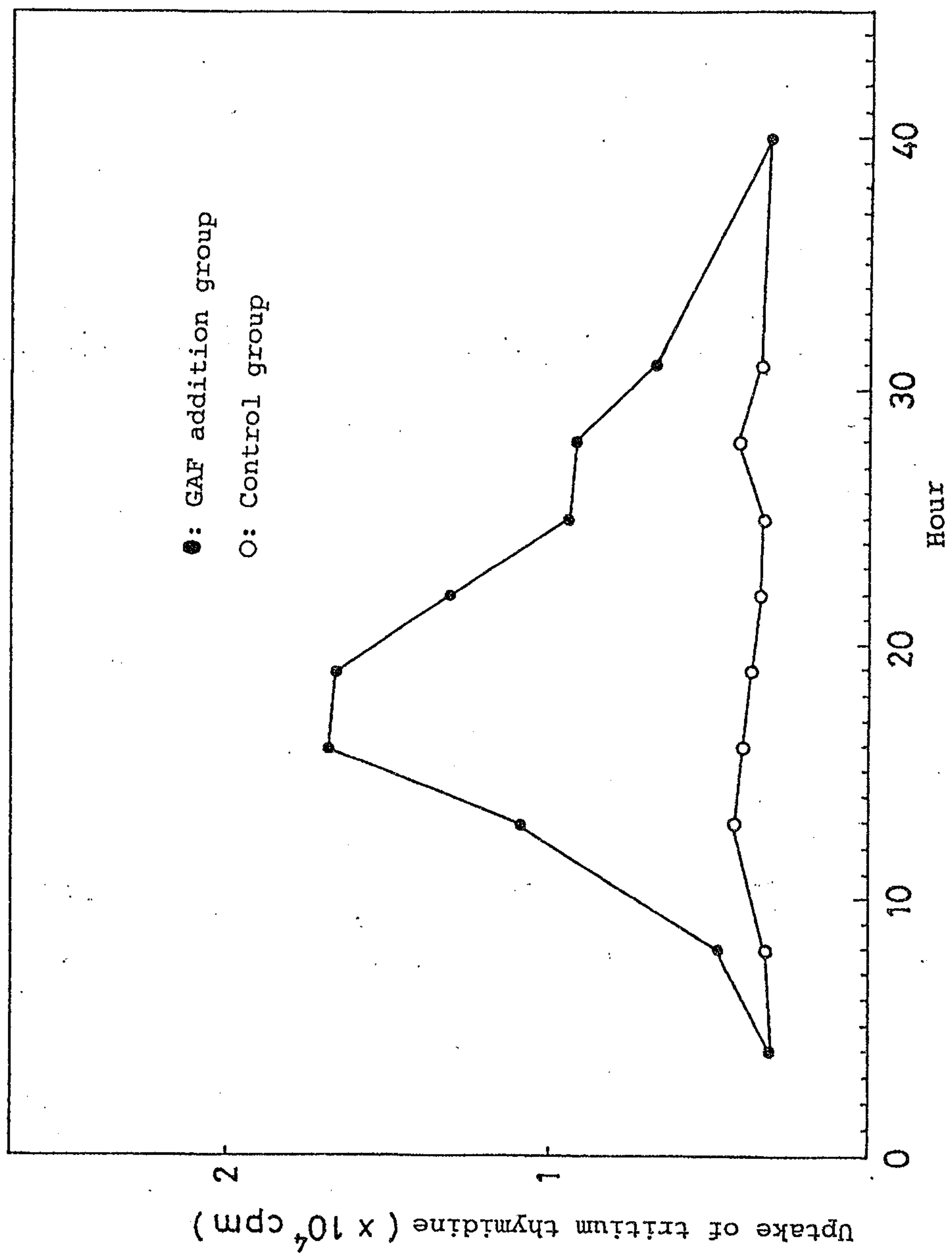


Fig. 11

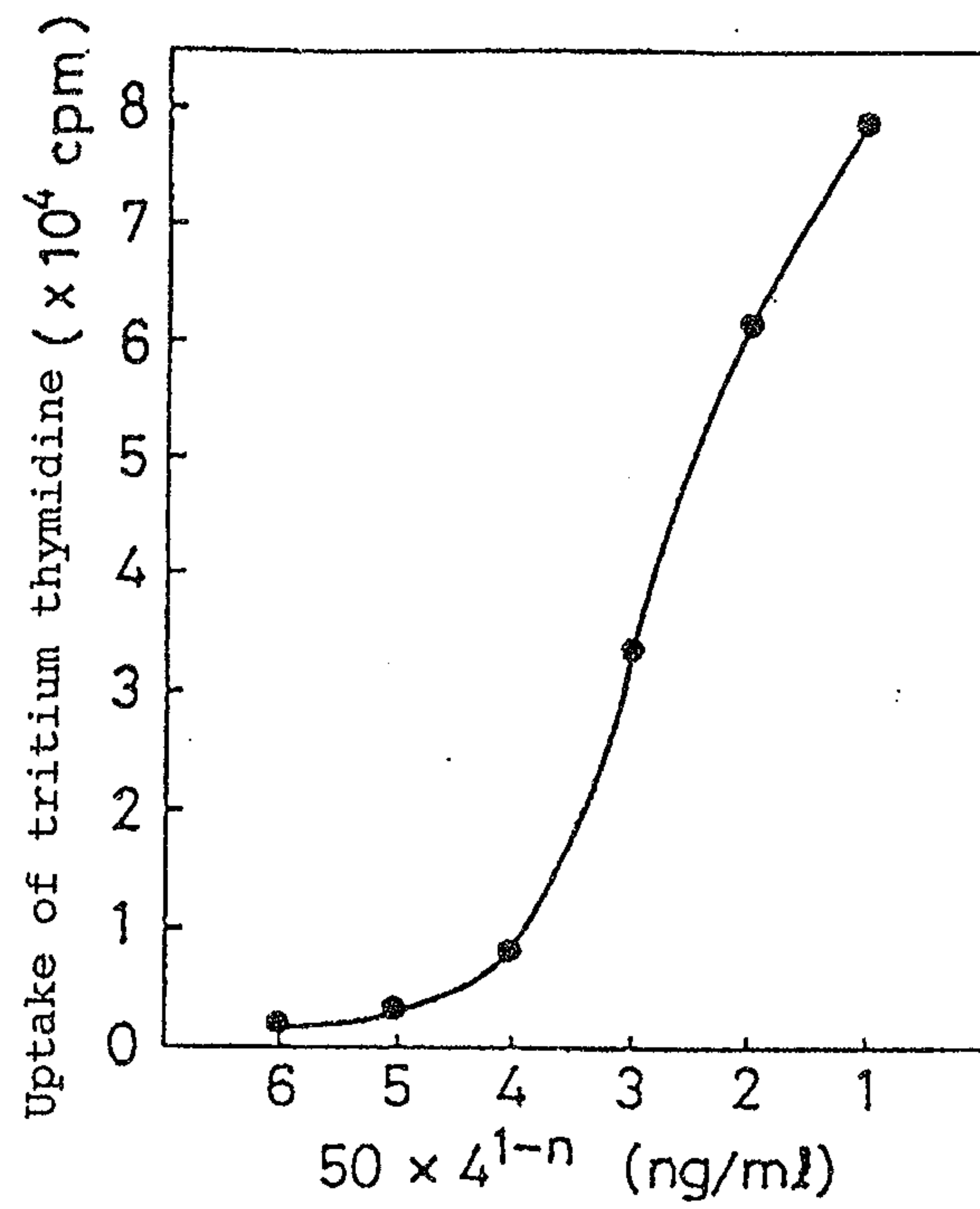


Fig. 12

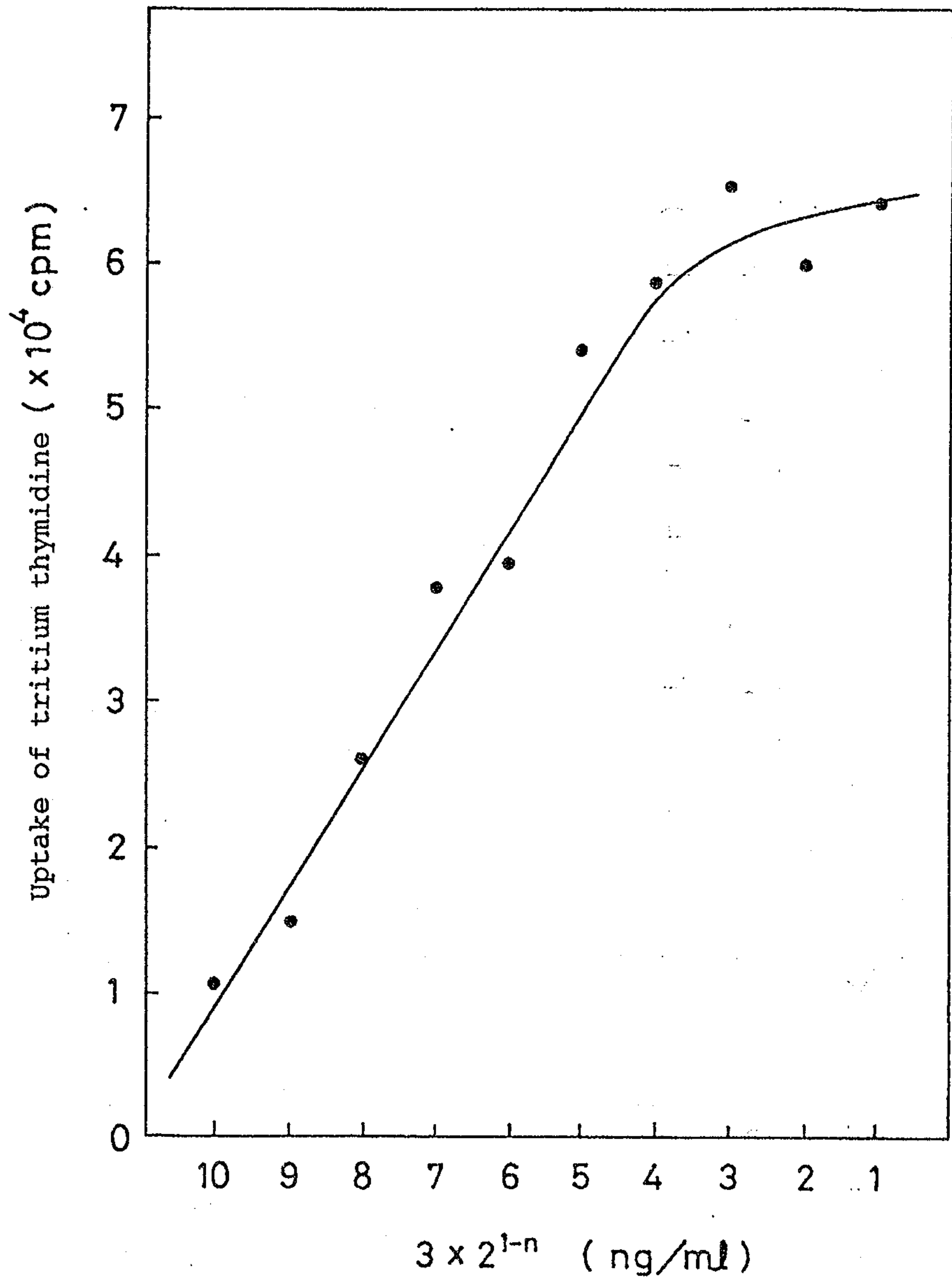
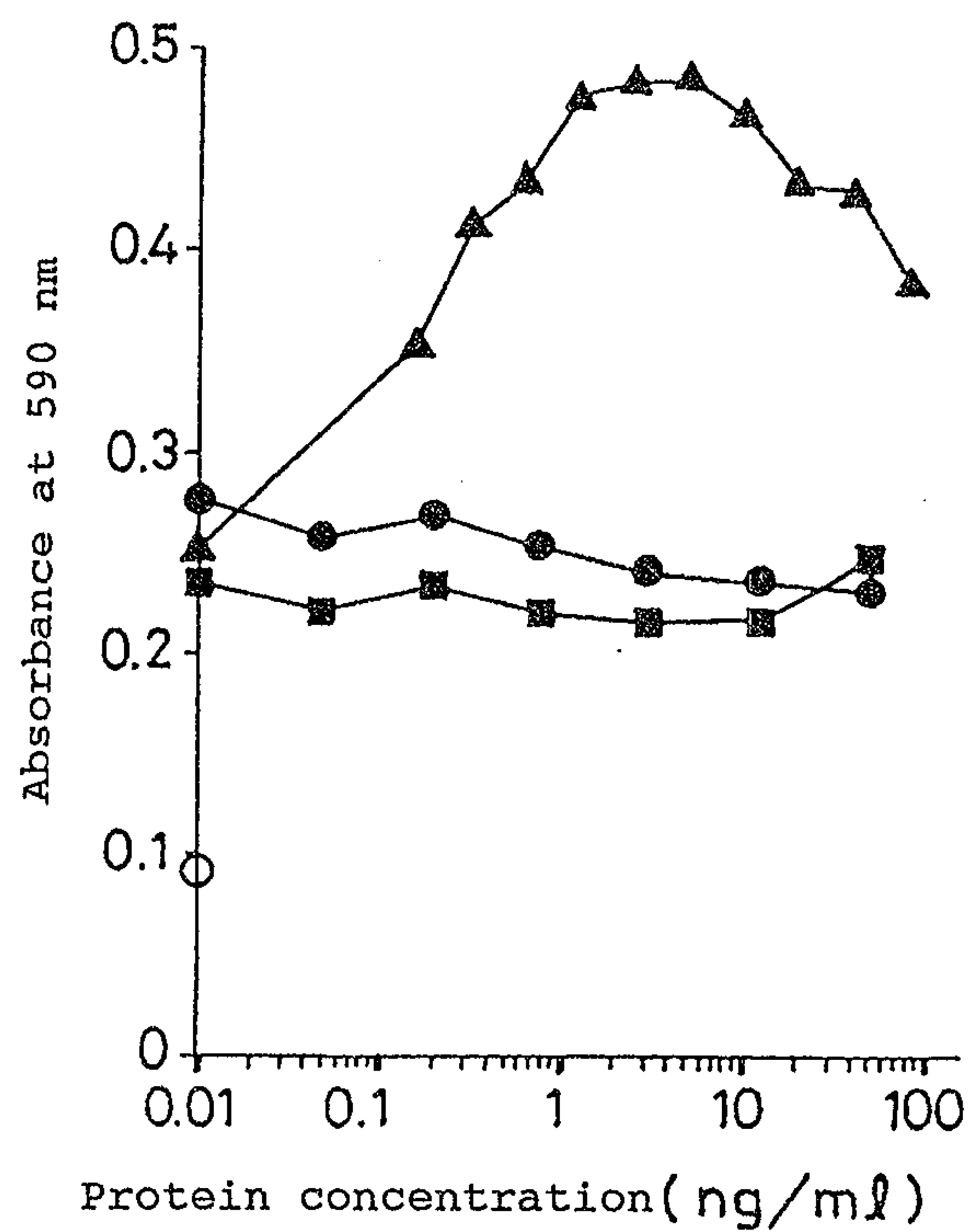


Fig. 13



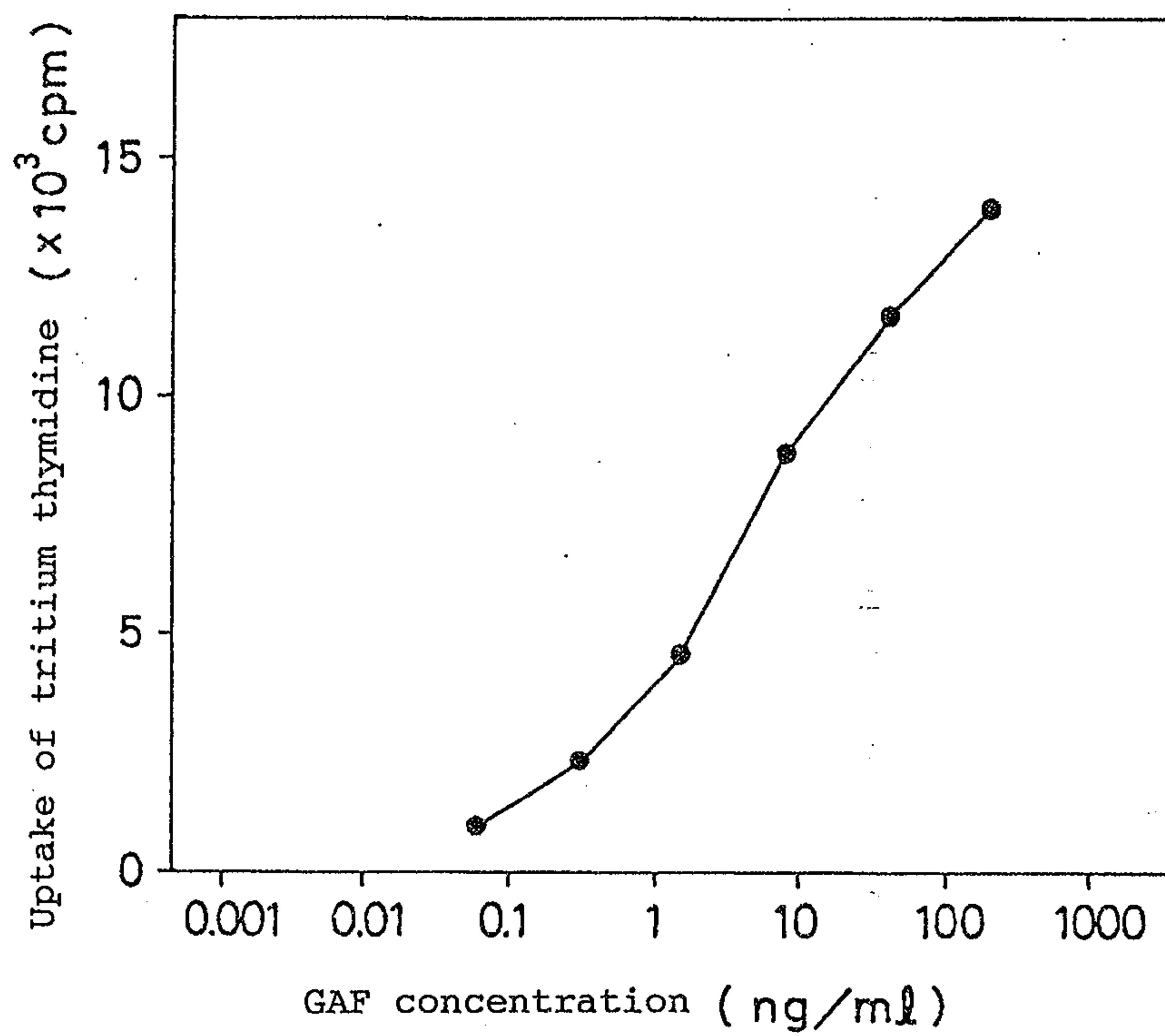
●: GAF addition group

■: GAF and heparin (5 µg/ml) addition group

▲: bFGF addition group

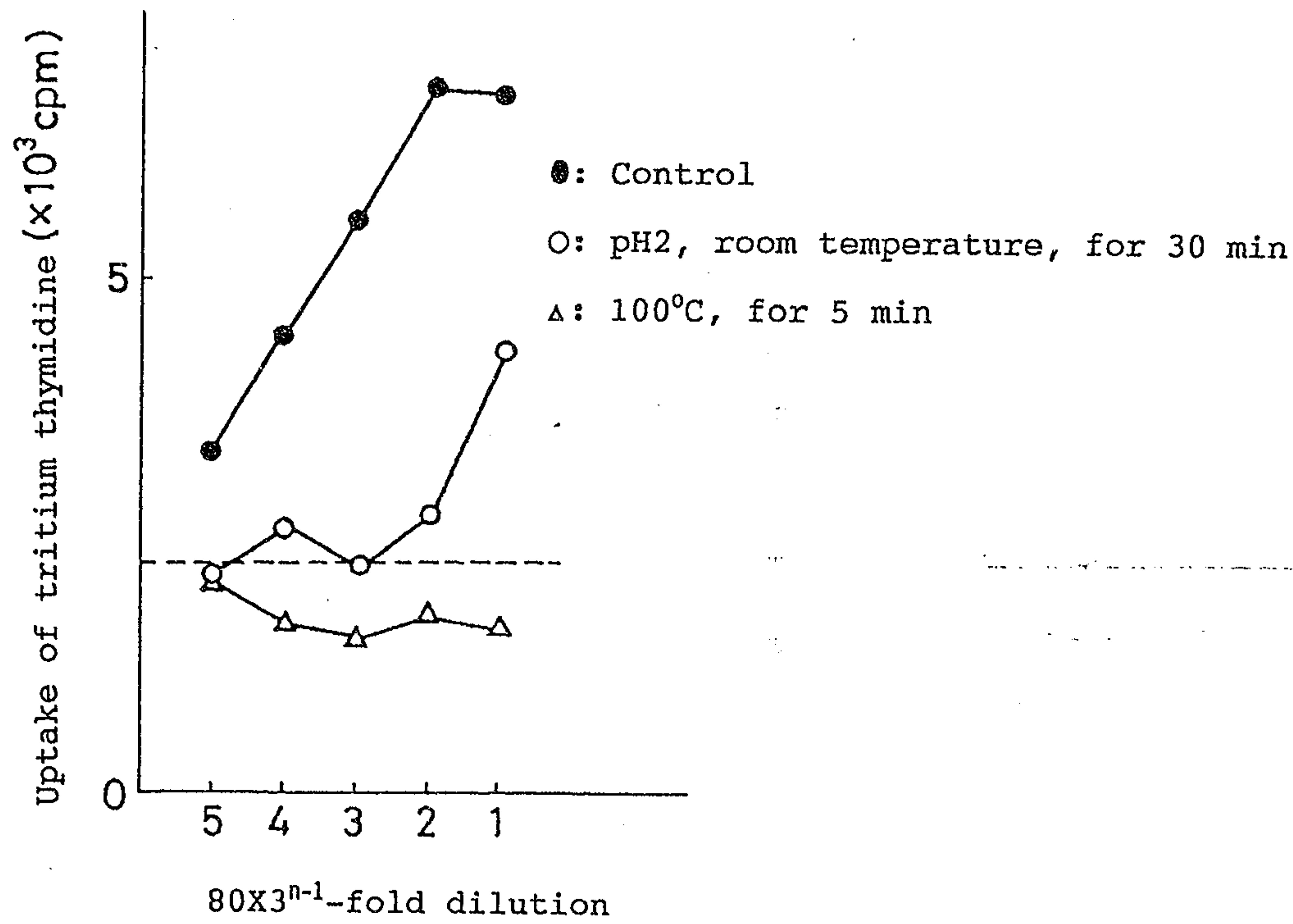
○: No addition group

Fig. 14



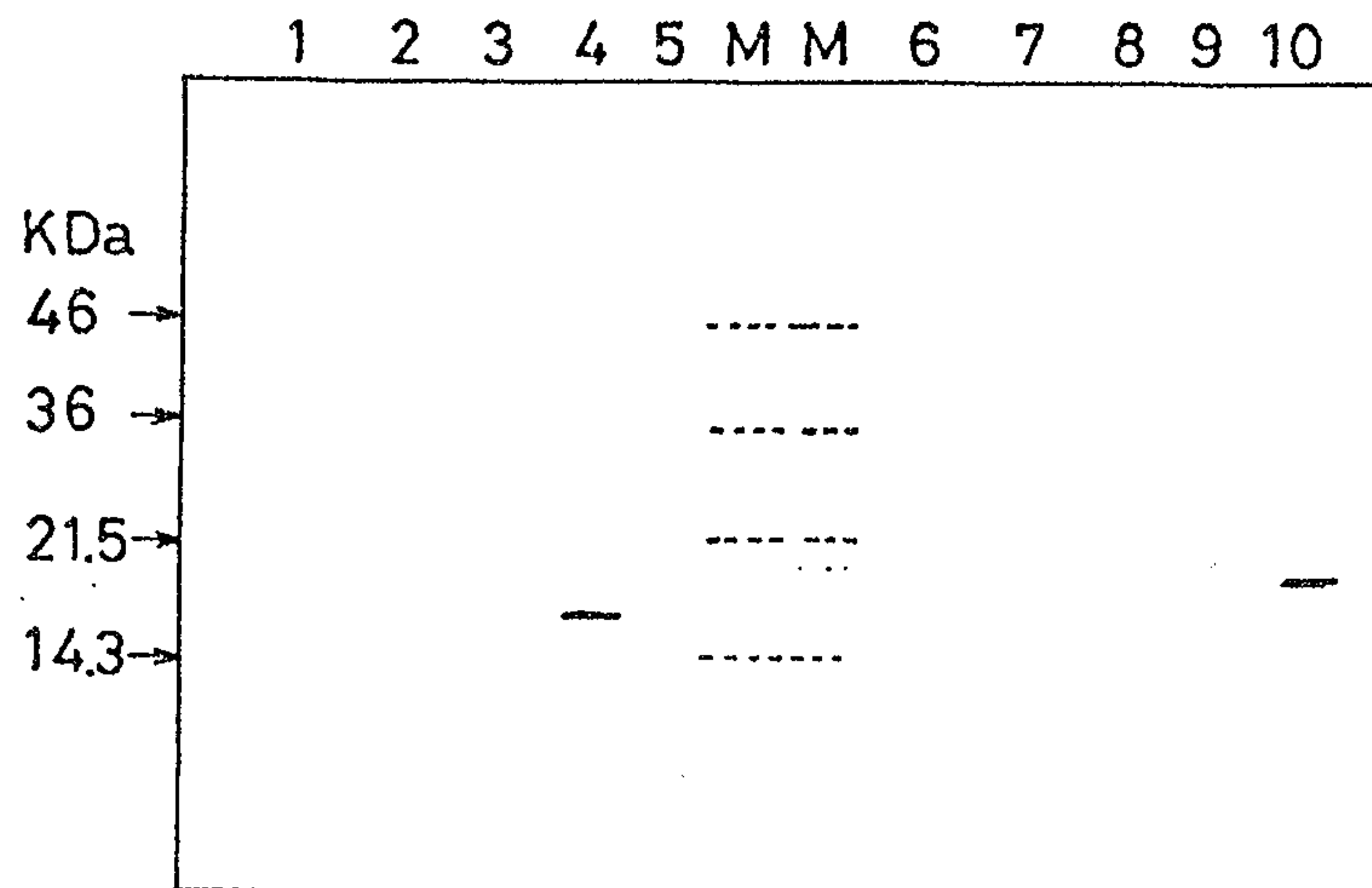
Patent Agents
Jellicott & Co.

Fig. 15



Patent 4,000,000
Johnson & Johnson Co.

Fig. 16



1,6: Molecular weight 25,000 GAF

2,7: Molecular weight 29,000 GAF

3,8: Molecular weight 30,000 GAF

4,9: acidic FGF

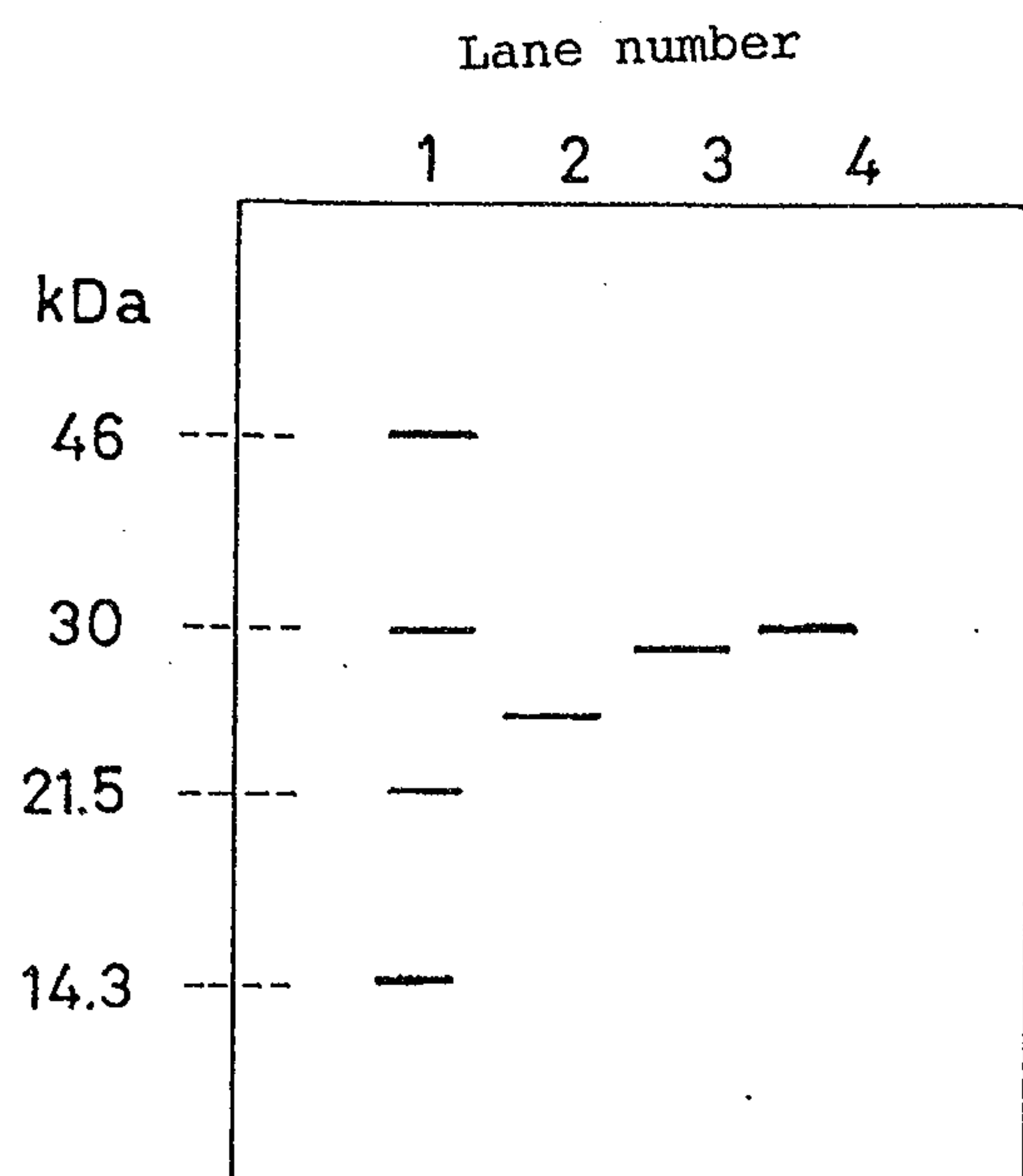
5,10: basic FGF

1~5: Rabbit anti-acidic FGF polyclonal anti-serum

6~10: Rabbit anti-basic FGF polyclonal anti-serum

M: Colored standard protein

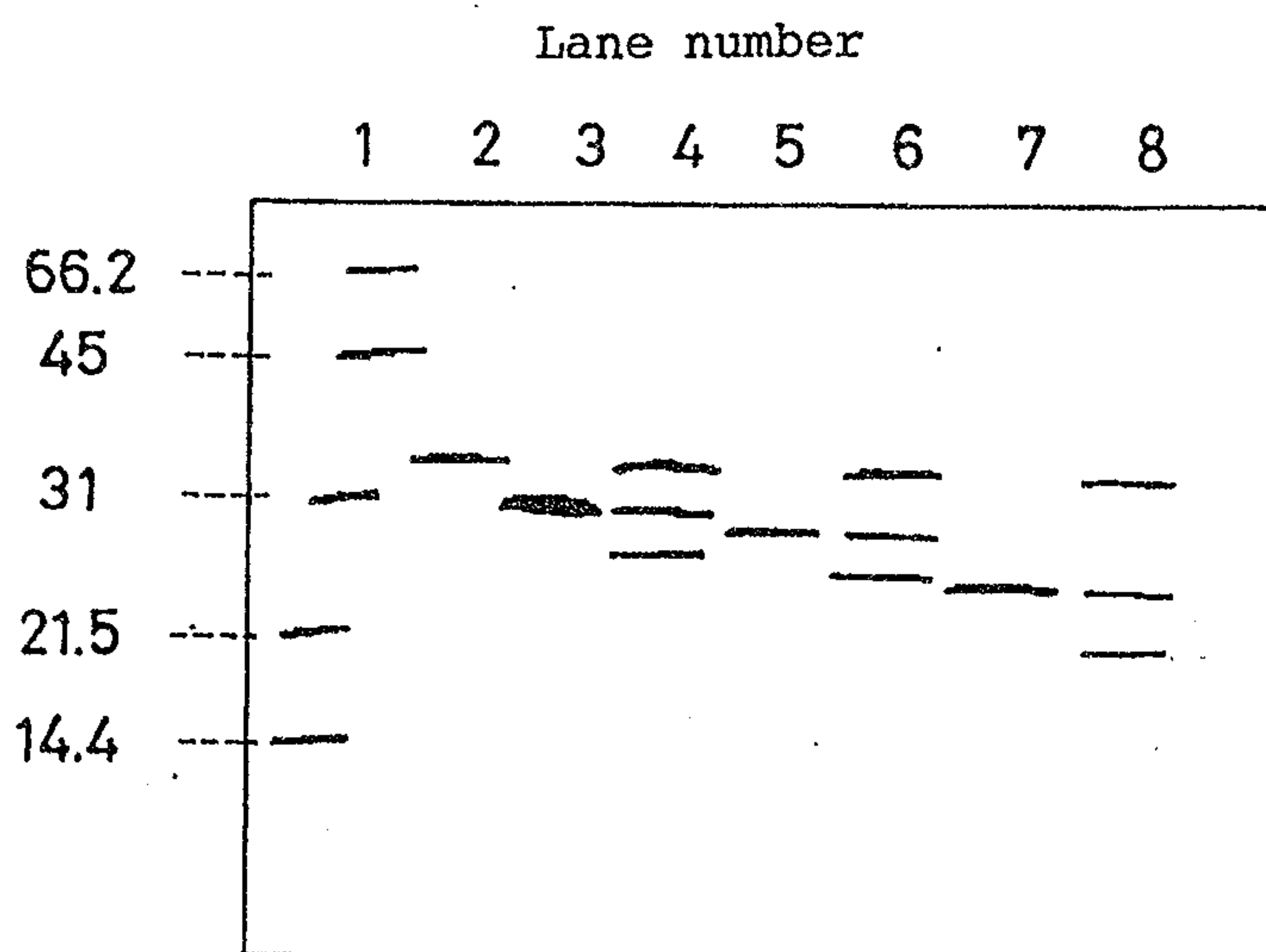
Fig. 17



1. Colored standard protein (Amersham, England)
2. 25kDa GAF
3. 29kDa GAF
4. 30kDa GAF

Patent Agents
Sharma

Fig. 18



1. Standard protein
2. N-glycanase alone
3. 30 kDa GAF
4. 30 kDa GAF + N-glycanase
5. 29 kDa GAF
6. 29 kDa GAF + N-glycanase
7. 25 kDa GAF
8. 25 kDa GAF + N-glycanase

10 20 30 40 50 60
TGAAACAGCAGATTACTTTTATTTATGCATTTAATGGATTGAAGAAAAGAACCTTTTTTT

70 80 90 100 110 120
TTCTCTCTCTCTGCAACTGCAGTAAGGGAGGGGAGTTGGATATACCTCGCCTAATATC

130 140 150 160 170 180
TCCTGGGTTGACACCATCATTATTGTTTATTCTTGTGCTCCAAAAGCCGAGTCCTCTGAT
Me

190 200 210 220 230 240
GGCTCCCTTAGGTGAAGTTGGGAACCTATTTTCGGTGTGCAGGATGCGGTACCGTTTGGGAA
tAlaProLeuGlyGluValGlyAsnTyrPheGlyValGlnAspAlaValProPheGlyAs

250 260 270 280 290 300
TGTGCCCCGTGTTGCCGGTGGACAGCCCCGGTTTTGTAAAGTGACCACCTGGGTCAGTCCGA
nValProValLeuProValAspSerProValLeuLeuSerAspHisLeuGlyGlnSerGl

310 320 330 340 350 360
AGCAGGGGGGCTCCCCAGGGGACCCGCAGTCACGGACTTGGATCATTTAAAGGGGATTCT
uAlaGlyGlyLeuProArgGlyProAlaValThrAspLeuAspHisLeuLysGlyIleLe

370 380 390 400 410 420
CAGGCGGAGGCAGCTATACTGCAGGACTGGATTTCACTTAGAAATCTTCCCCAATGGTAC
uArgArgArgGlnLeuTyrCysArgThrGlyPheHisLeuGluIlePheProAsnGlyTh

430 440 450 460 470 480
TATCCAGGGAACCAGGAAAGACCACAGCCGATTTGGCATTCTGGAATTTATCAGTATAGC
rIleGlnGlyThrArgLysAspHisSerArgPheGlyIleLeuGluPheIleSerIleAl

490 500 510 520 530 540
AGTGGGCCTGGTCAGCATTTCGAGGCGTGGACAGTGGACTCTACCTCGGGATGAATGAGAA
aValGlyLeuValSerIleArgGlyValAspSerGlyLeuTyrLeuGlyMetAsnGluLy

550 560 570 580 590 600
GGGGGAGCTGTATGGATCAGAAAACTAACCCAAGAGTGTGTATTCAGAGAACAGTTCGA
sGlyGluLeuTyrGlySerGluLysLeuThrGlnGluCysValPheArgGluGlnPheGl

610 620 630 640 650 660
AGAAAACTGGTATAATACGTACTCGTCAAACCTATATAAGCACGTGGACACTGGAAGGCG
uGluAsnTrpTyrAsnThrTyrSerSerAsnLeuTyrLysHisValAspThrGlyArgAr

670 680 690 700 710 720
ATACTATGTTGCATTAAATAAAGATGGGACCCCGAGAGAAGGGACTAGGACTAAACGGCA
gTyrTyrValAlaLeuAsnLysAspGlyThrProArgGluGlyThrArgThrLysArgHis

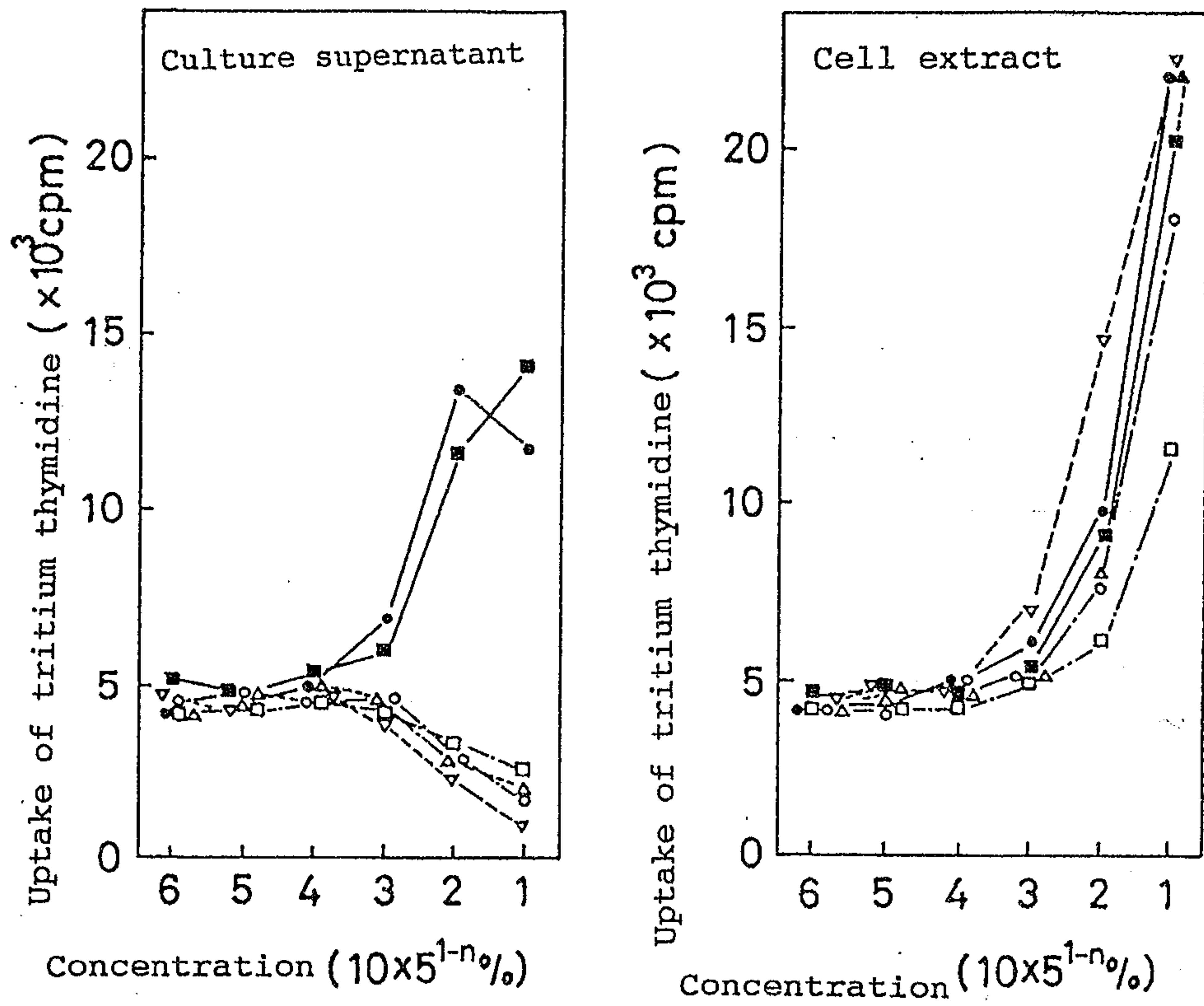
730 740 750 760 770 780
CCAGAAATTCACACATTTTTTACCTAGACCAGTGGACCCCGACAAAGTACCTGAACTGTA
sGlnLysPheThrHisPheLeuProArgProValAspProAspLysValProGluLeuTy

790 800 810 820 830 840
TAAGGATATTCTAAGCCAAAGTTGACAAAGACAATTTCTTCACTTGAGCCCTTAAAAAAG
rLysAspIleLeuSerGlnSerEnd

850 860 870 880 890 900
TAACCACTATAAAGGTTTCACGCGGTGGGTTCTTATTGATTGAGCCCTTAAAAAAG

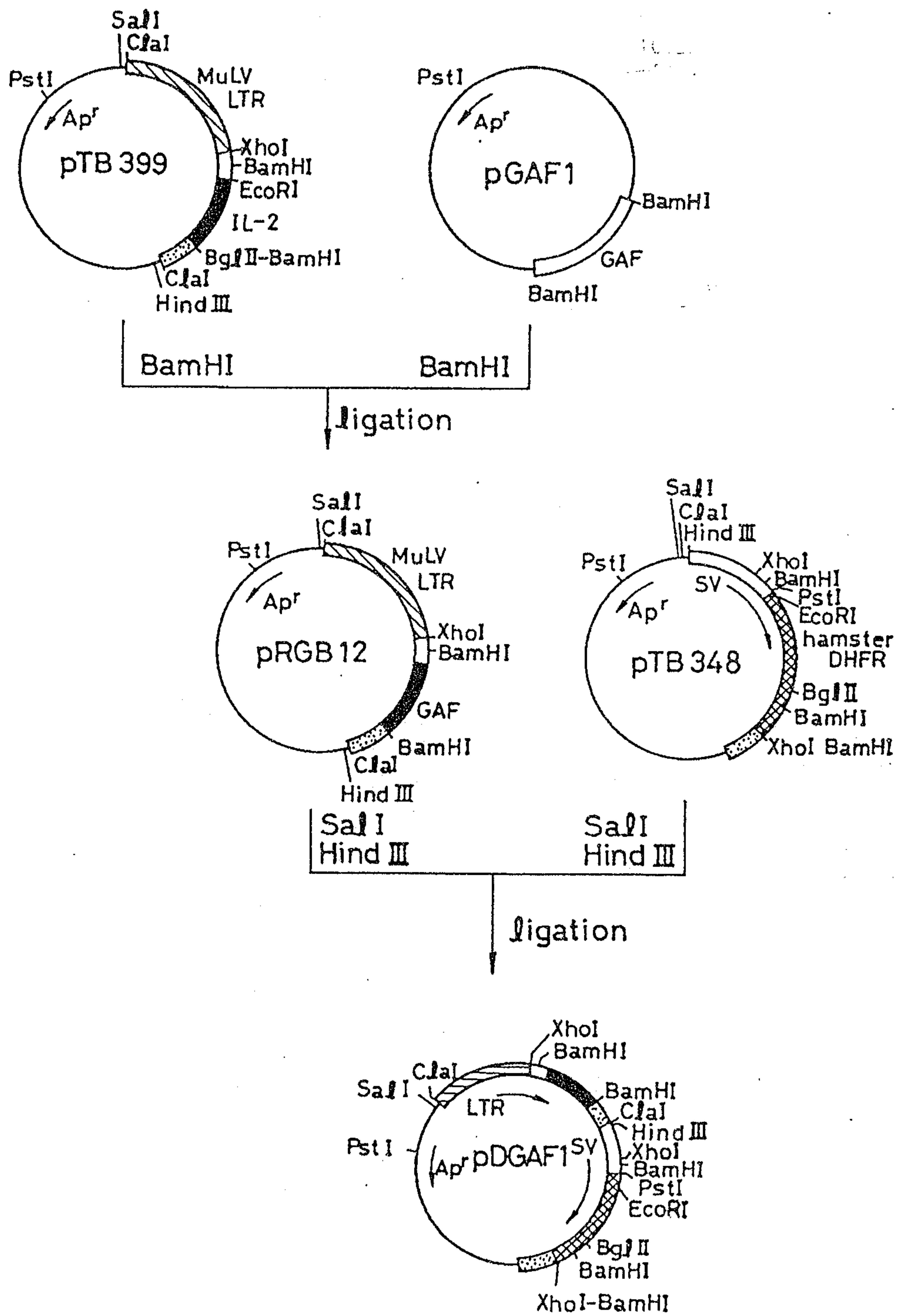
Patent Pending
Tribune Co.

Fig. 20



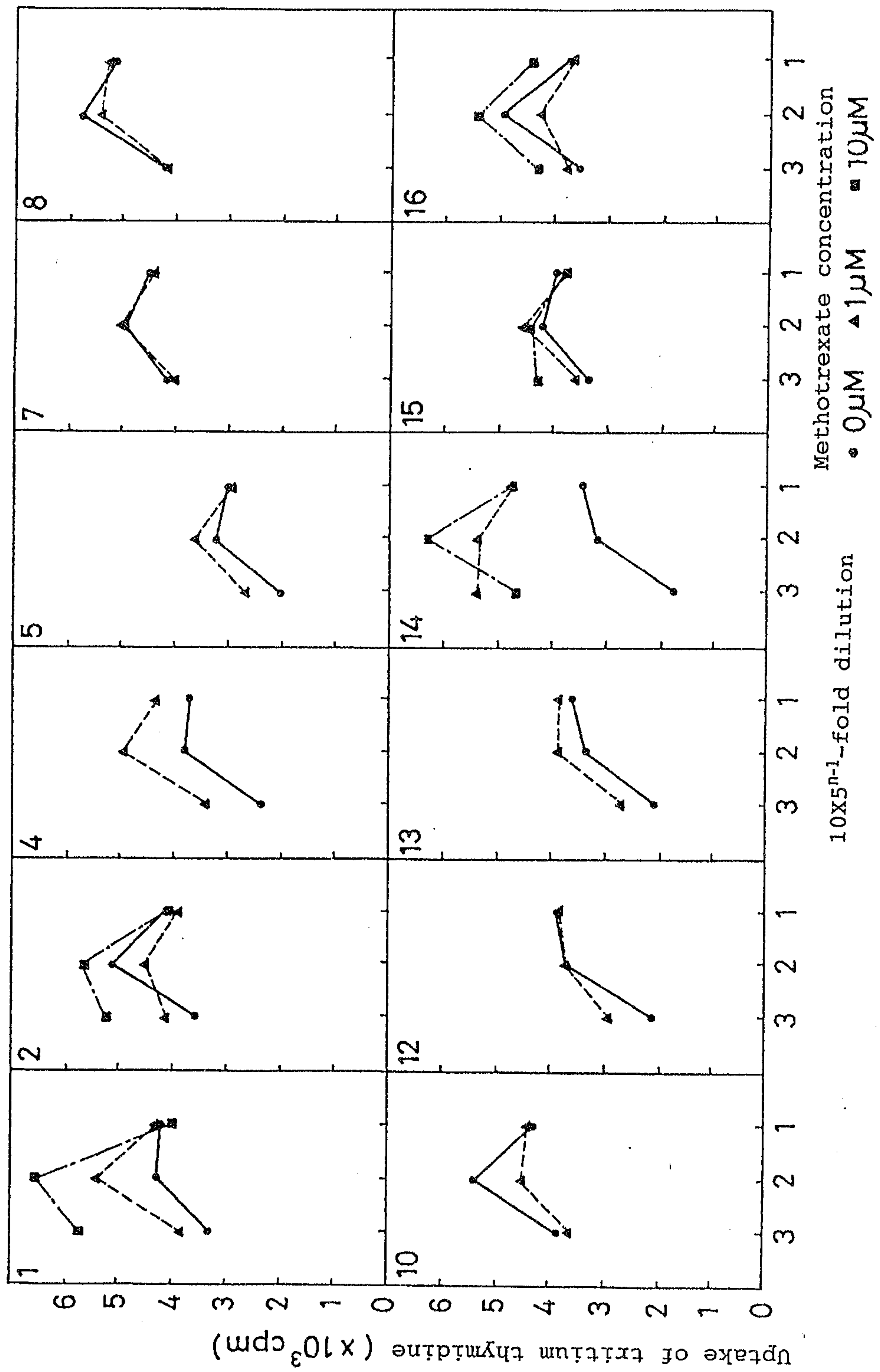
Patent Agents
Tellier, Lacombe & Co.

Fig. 21



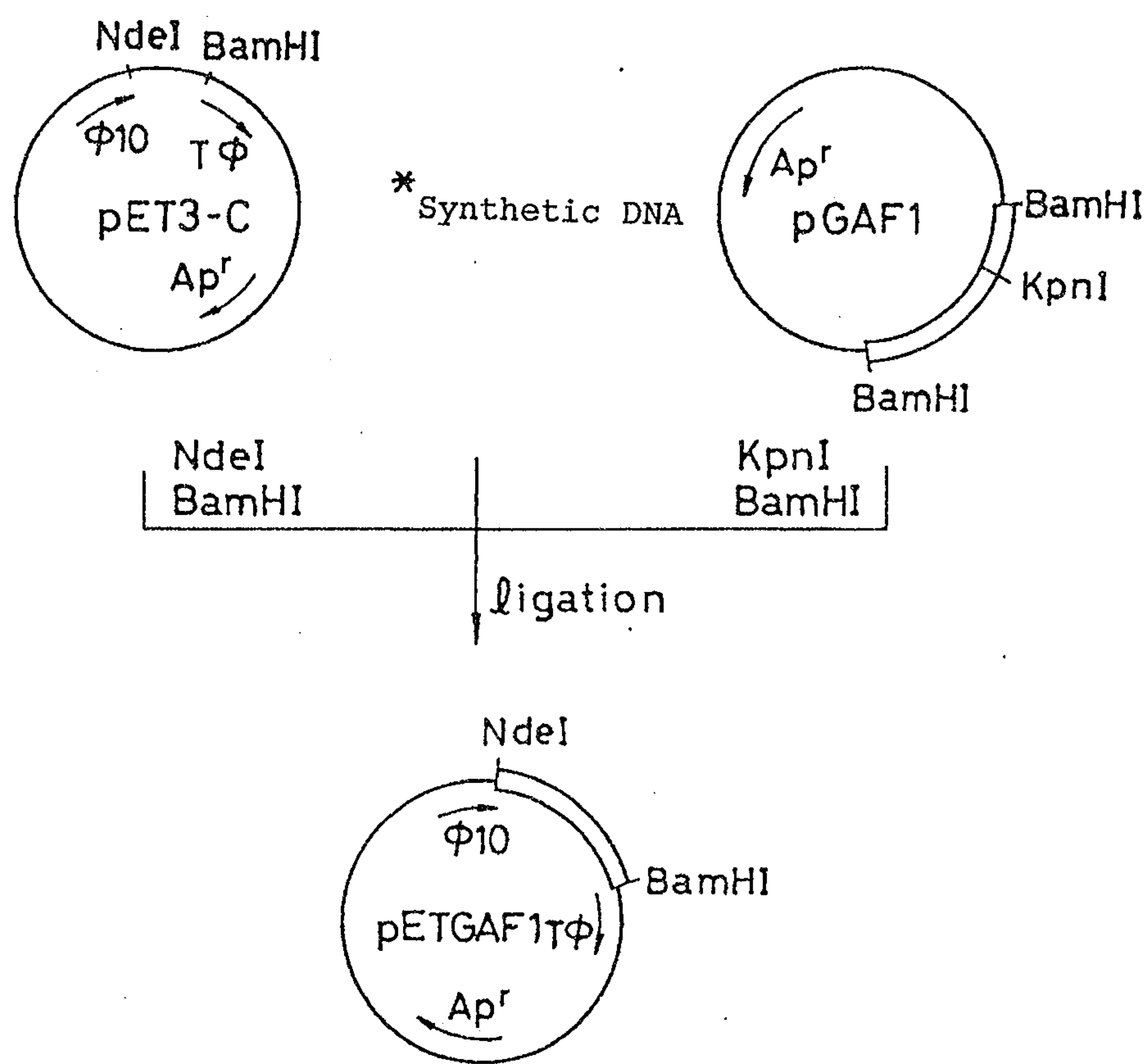
Patent Agents
Jethorston & Co.

Fig. 22



Patent Agents
Johnson & Co.

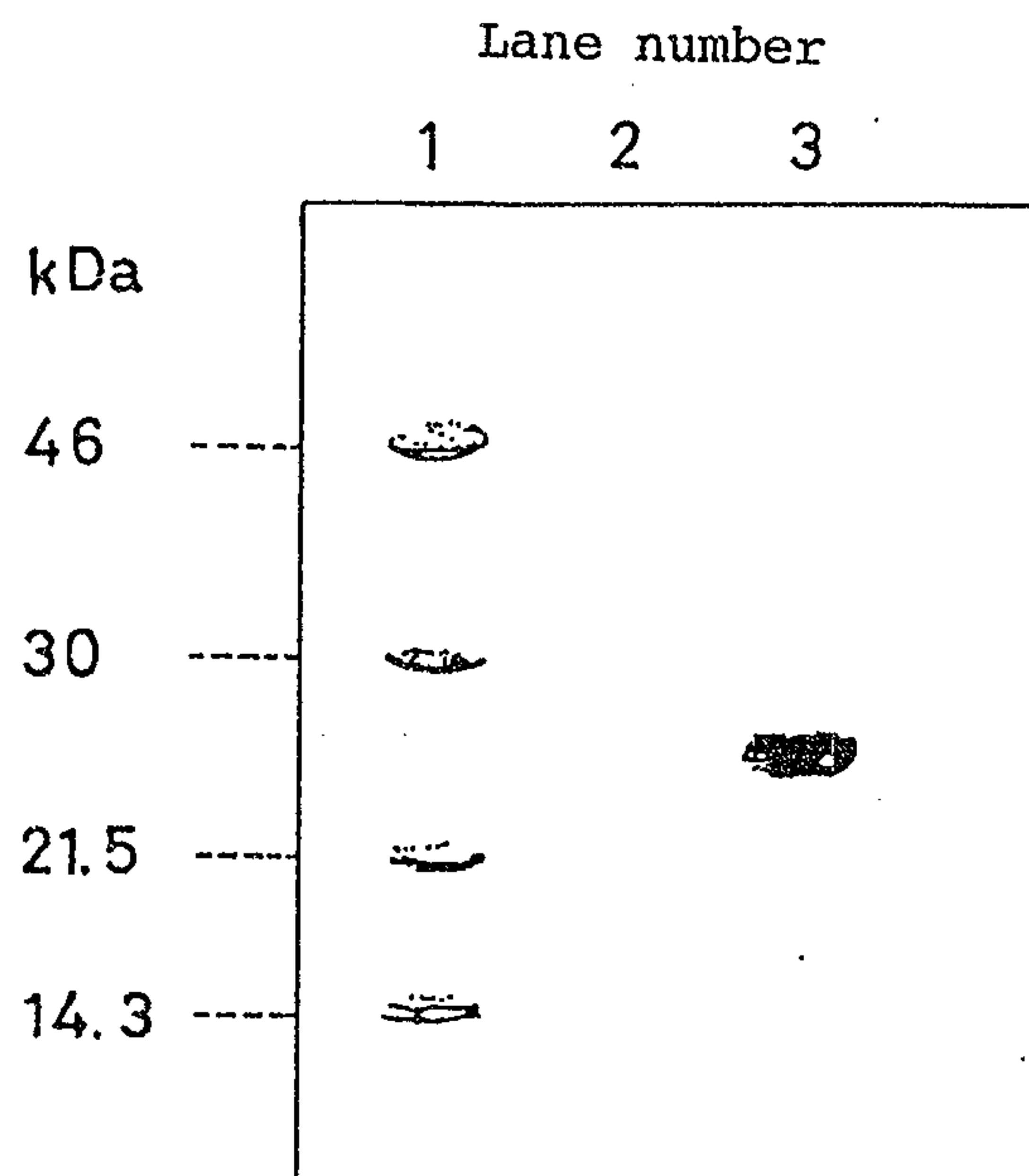
Fig. 23



*

5'-TATGTTAGGTGAAGTTGGGA ACTATTTCCGGTGTGCAGGATGCGGTAC -3'
ACAATCCACTTCAACCCTTGATAAAGCCACACGTCCTACGC

Fig. 24

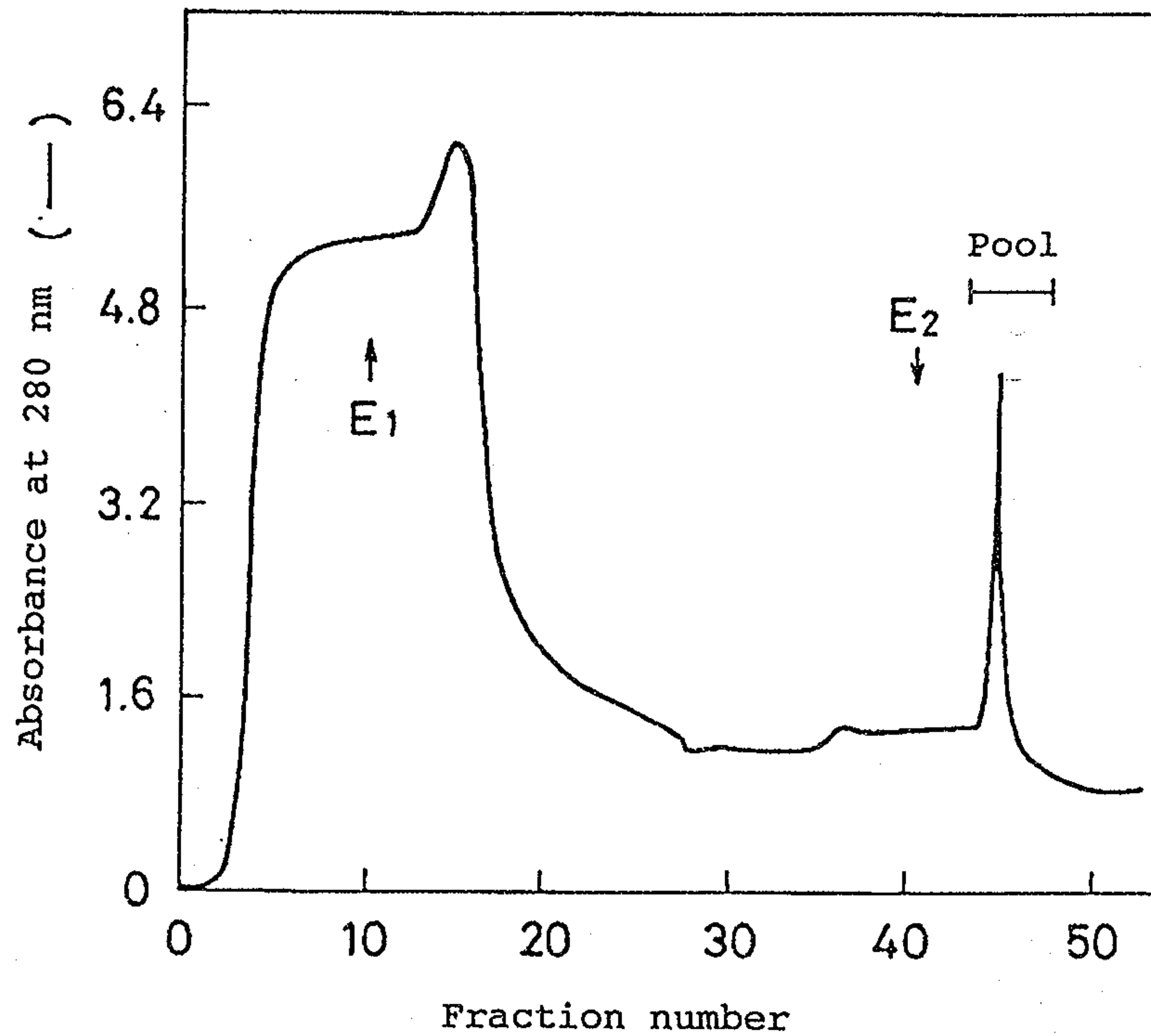


1. Colored standard protein (Amersham, England)

2. Extract of MM294(DE3)/pLys,pET3C

3. Extract of MM294(DE3)/pLys,pETGAF1

Fig. 25



E₁: 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) supplemented with 12.5% saturated ammonium sulfate and 2 mM_aPMSF

E₂: 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.6) supplemented with 15% glycerin, 0.1% CHAPS and 2 mM_aPMSF

2061148

Fig. 26

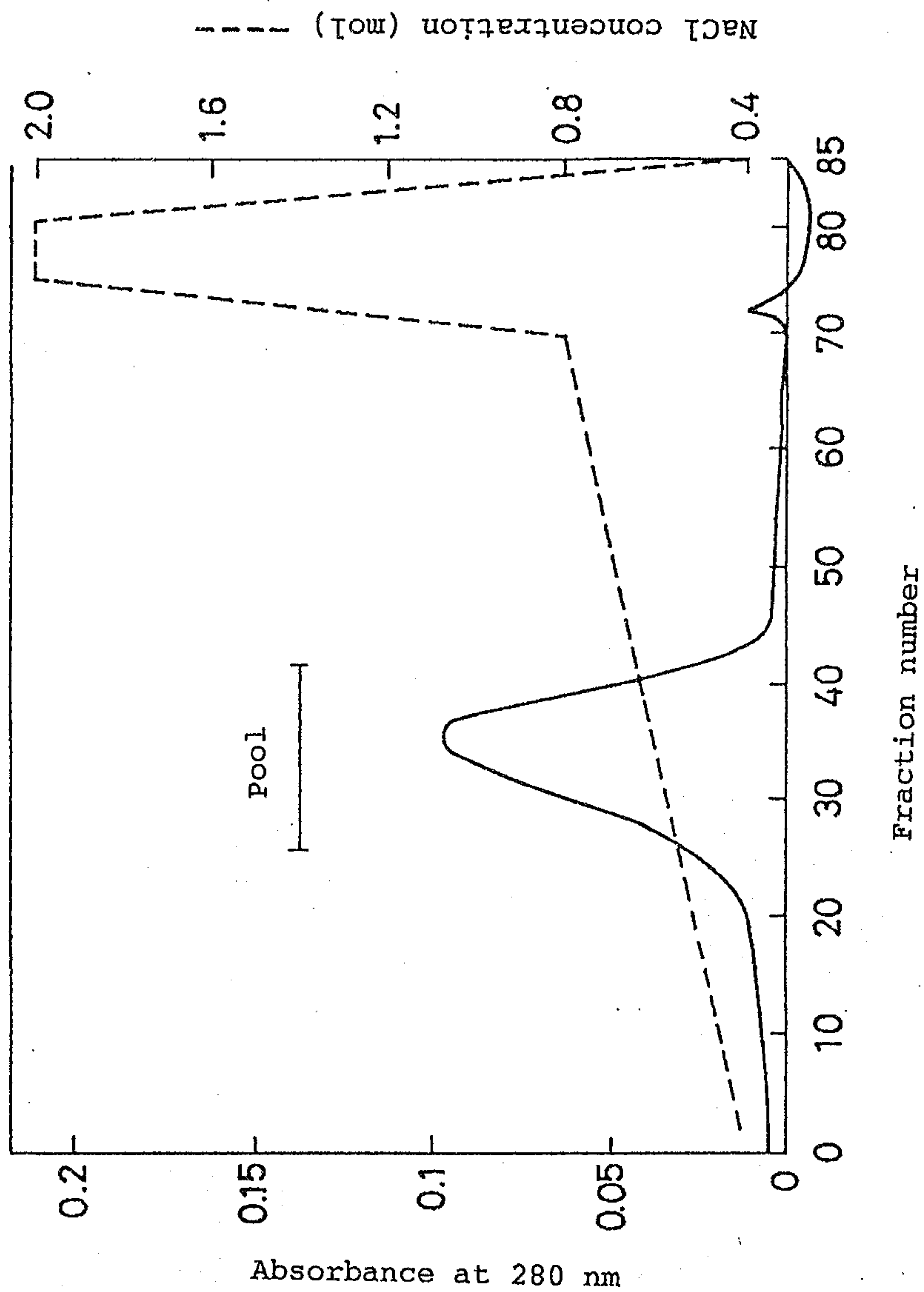


Fig. 27

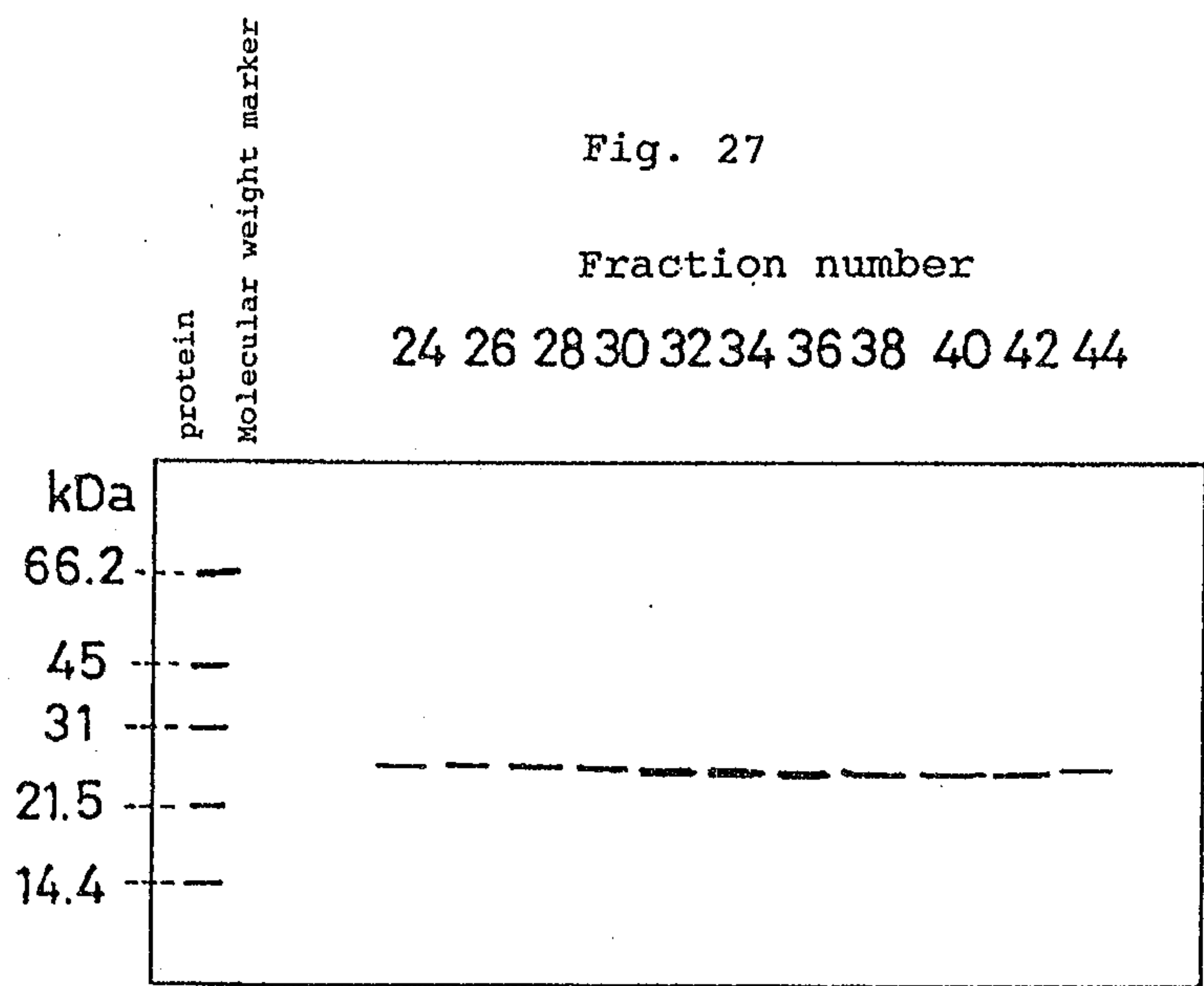
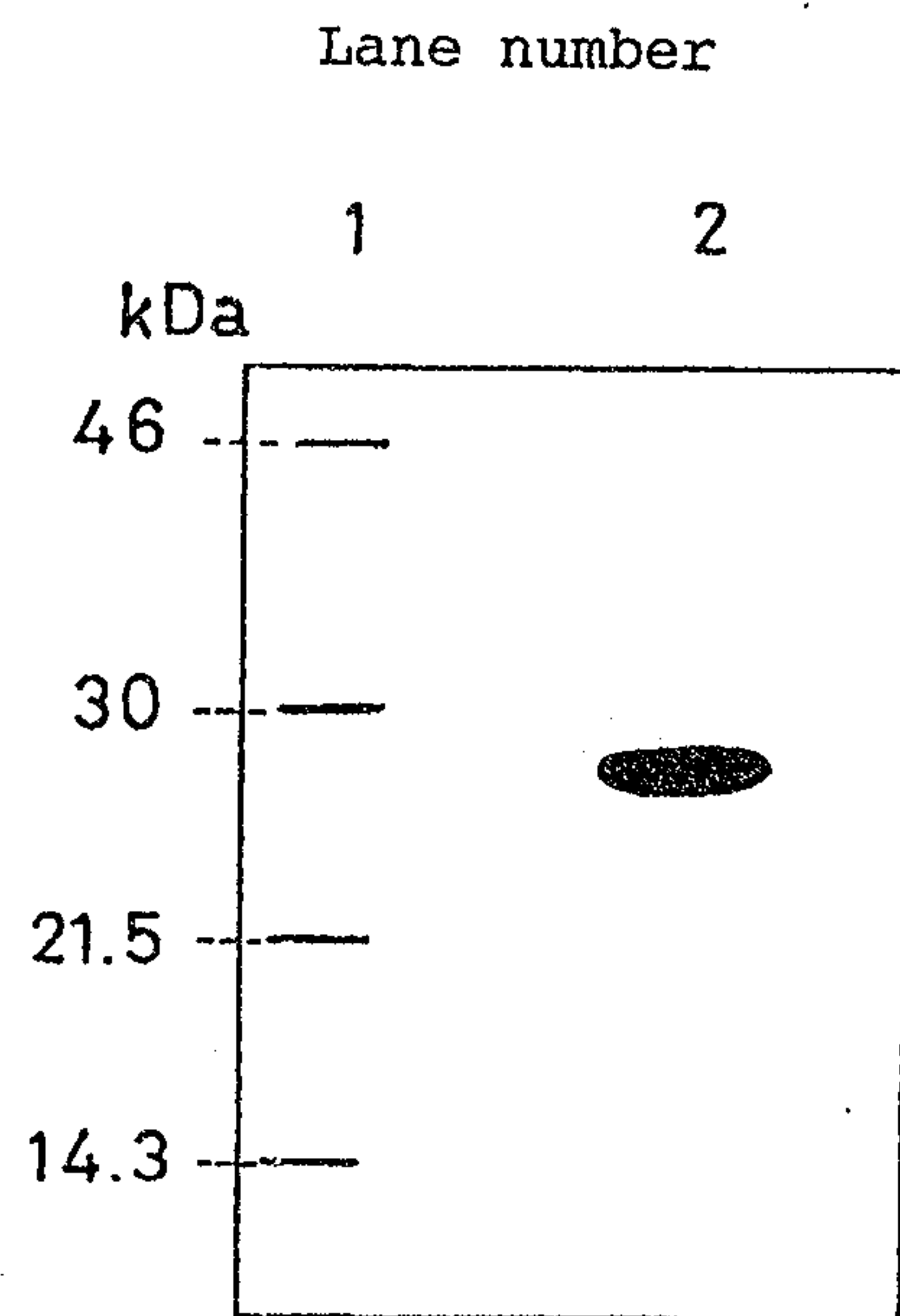


Fig. 28



1. Colored standard protein (Amersham, England)

2. Purified rhGAF

Fig. 29

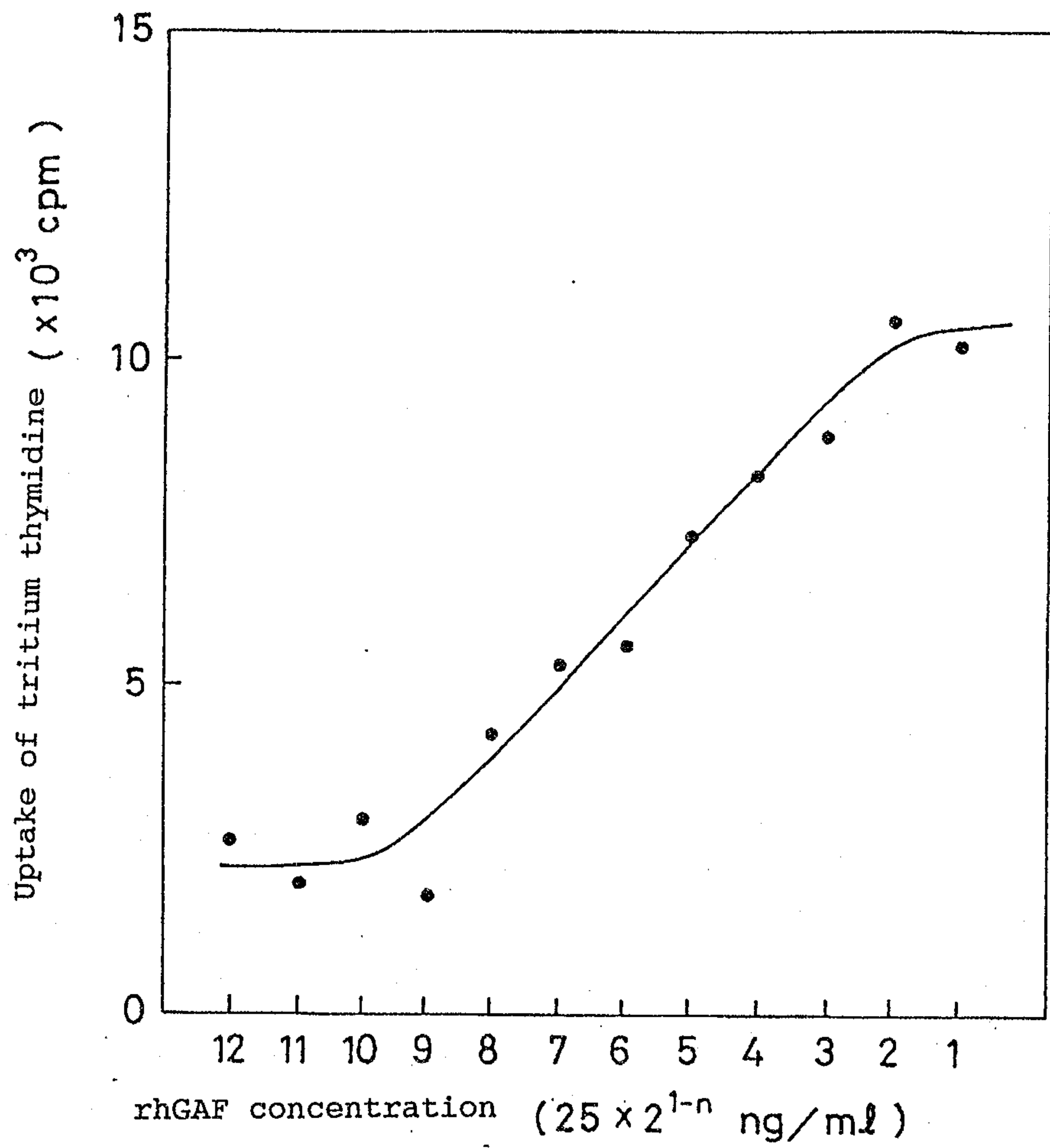


Fig. 30

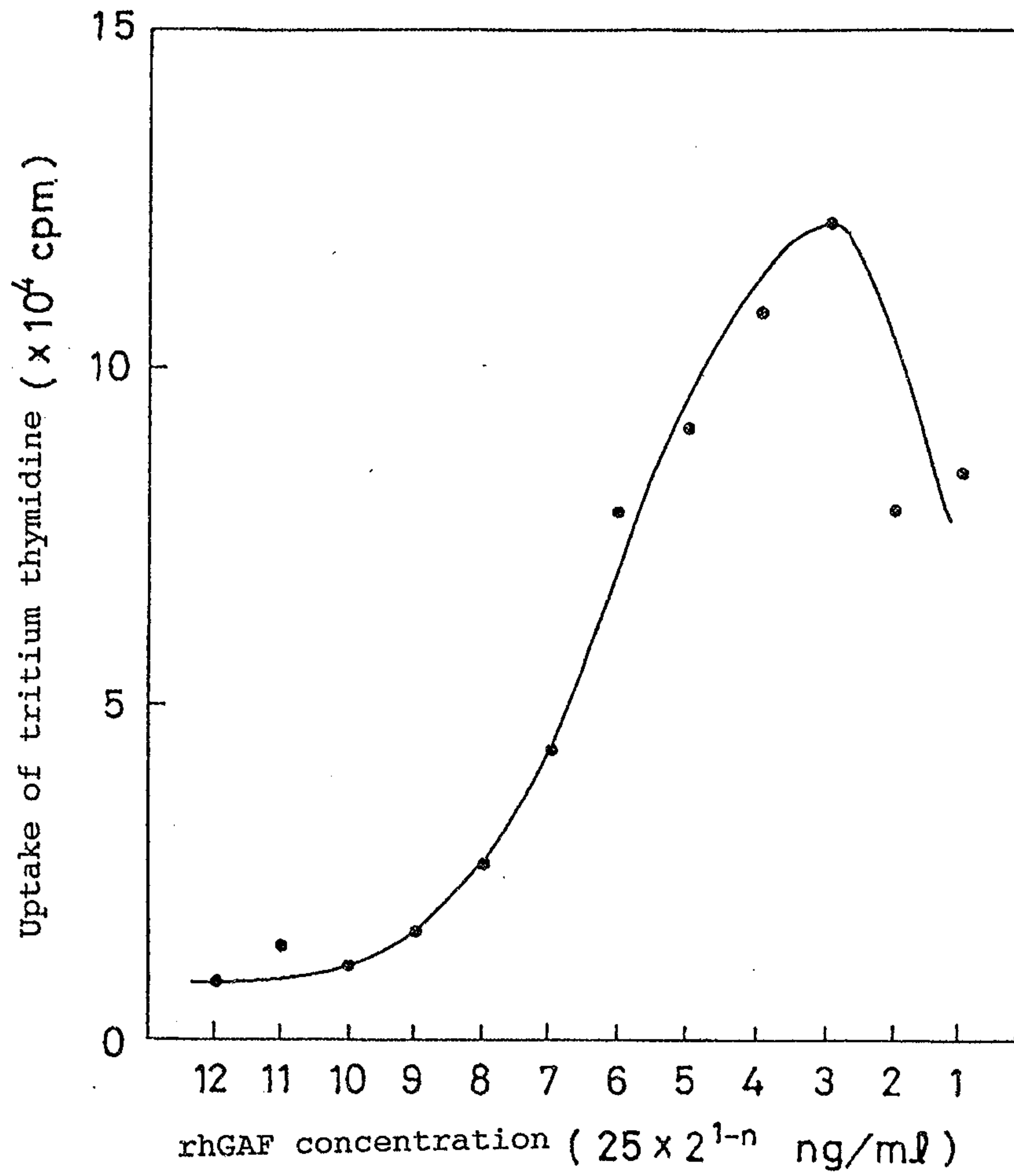


Fig. 31

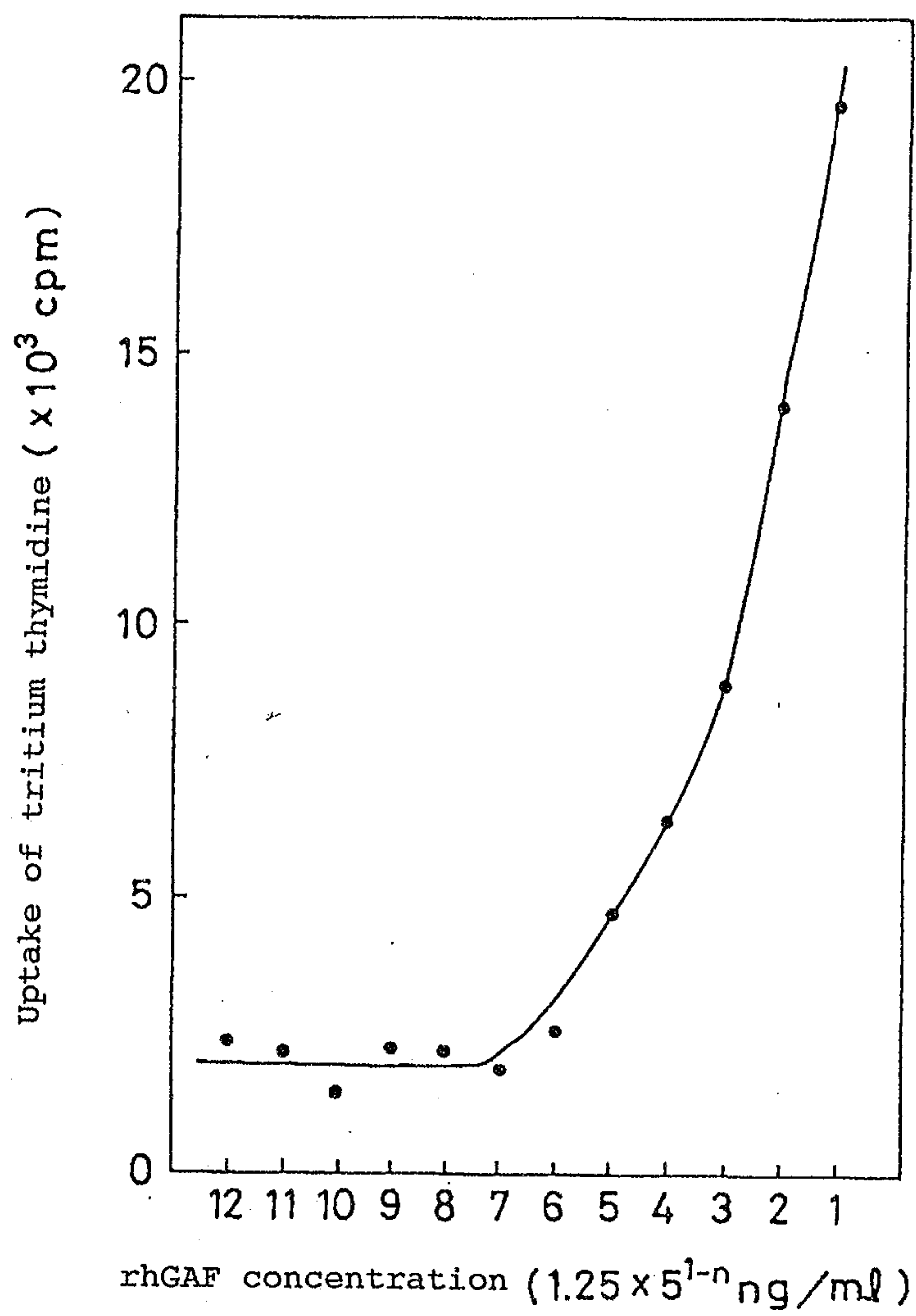
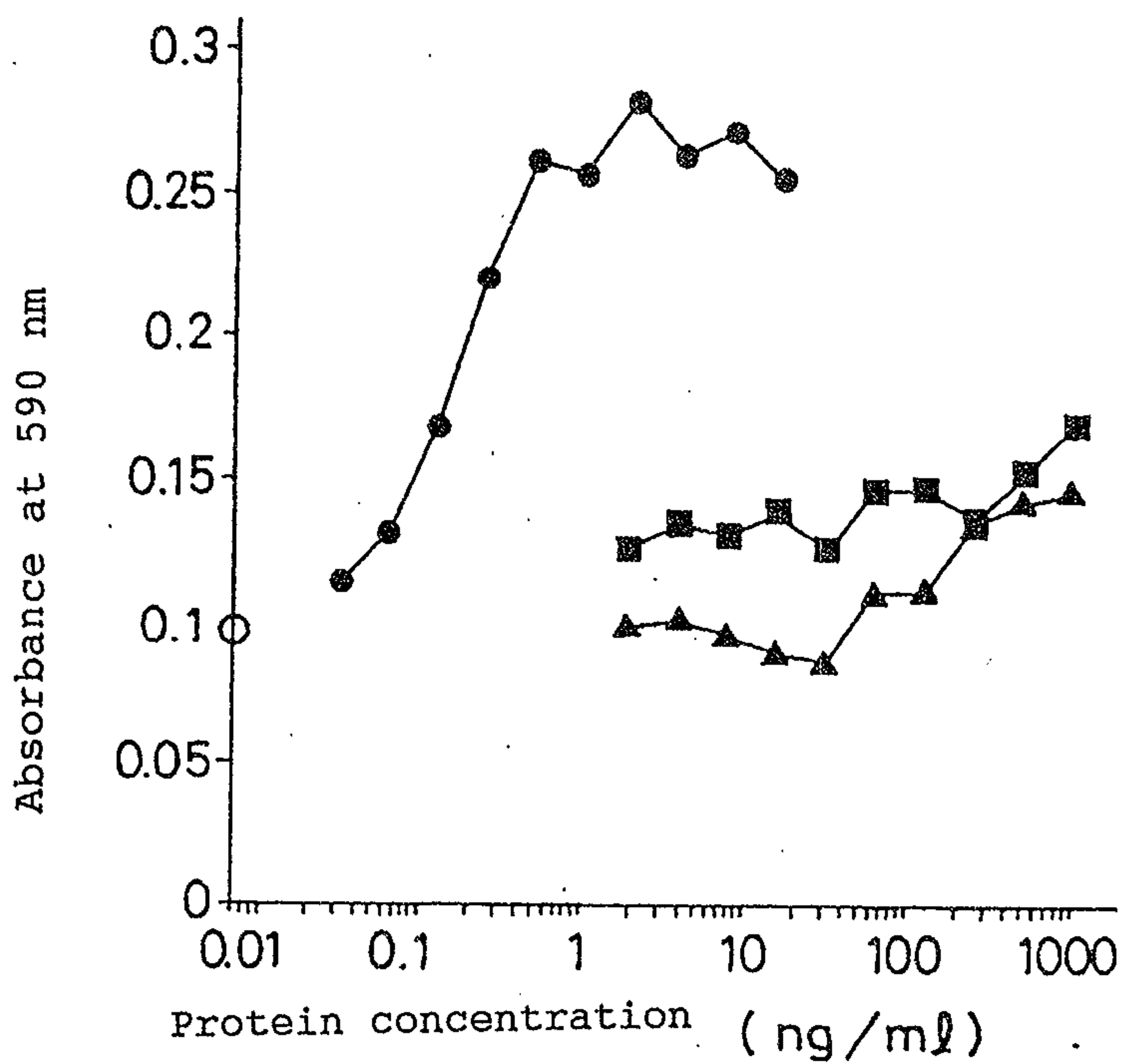
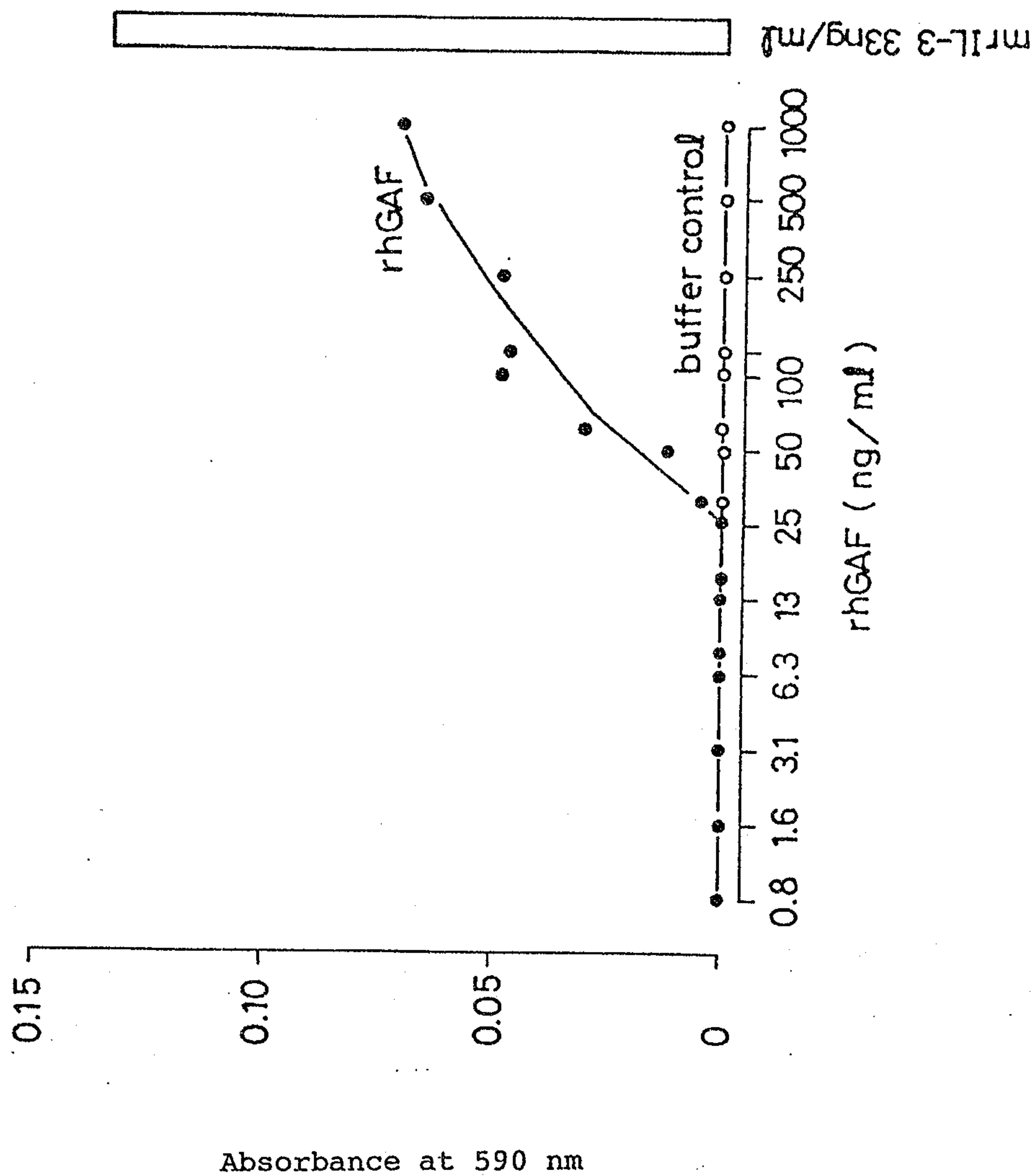


Fig. 32



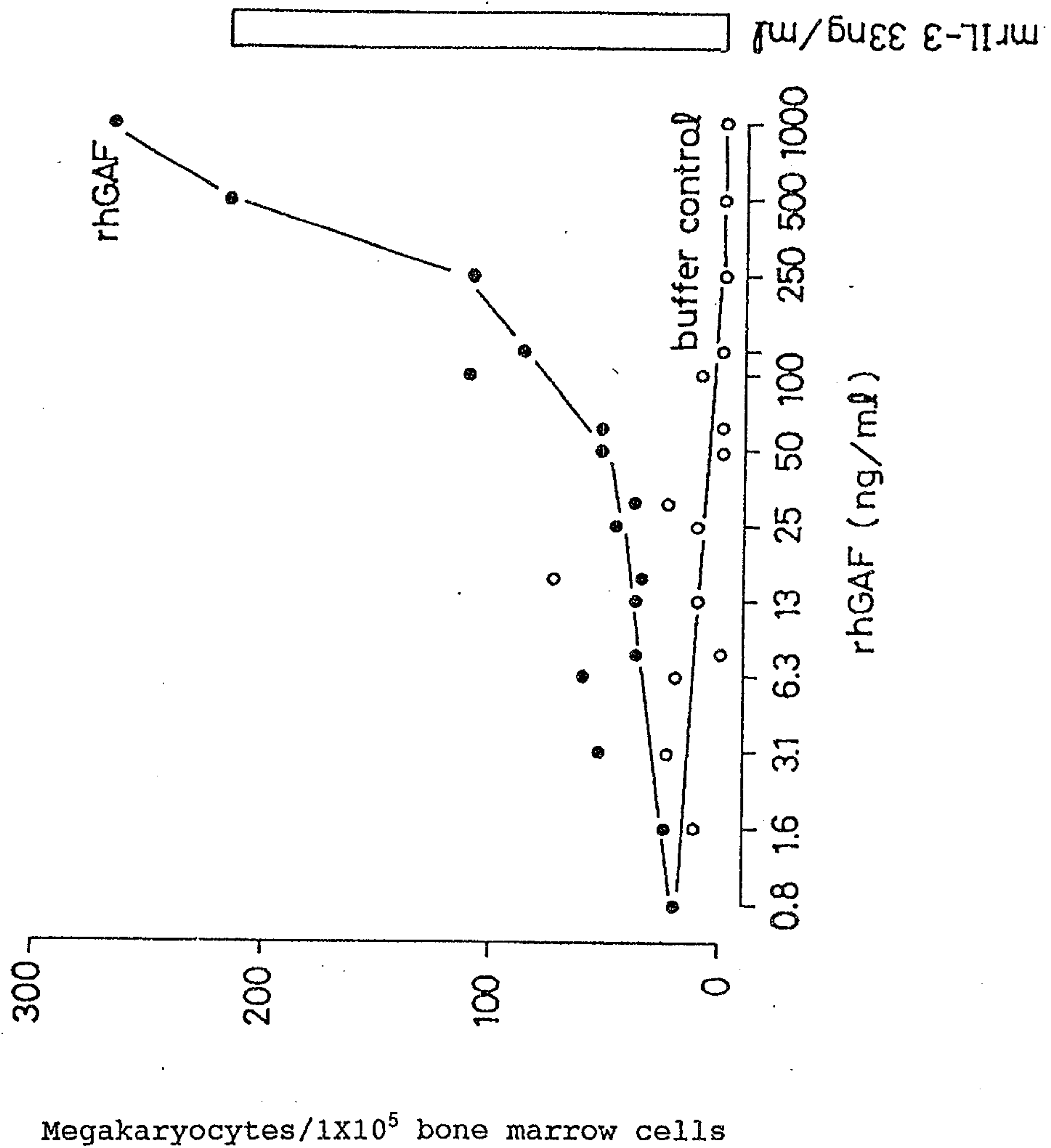
- ▲: rhGAF addition group
■: rhGAF and heparin (20 µg/ml) addition group
●: bFGF addition group
○: No addition group.

Fig. 33



Patent Agents
Jellicott & Co.

Fig. 34



Leu Asp His Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Arg Arg Arg
 Gln Leu Tyr Cys Arg Thr Gly Phe His Leu Glu Ile Phe Pro Asn
 Gly Thr Ile Gln Gly Thr Arg Lys Asp His Ser Arg Phe Gly Ile
 Leu Glu Phe Ile Ser Ile Ala Val Gly Leu Val Ser Ile Arg Gly
 Val Asp Ser Gly Leu Tyr Leu Gly Met Asn Glu Lys Gly Glu Leu
 Tyr Gly Ser Glu Lys Leu Thr Gln Glu Cys Val Phe Arg Glu Gln
 Phe Glu Glu Asn Trp Tyr Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys
 His Val Asp Thr Gly Arg Arg Tyr Tyr Val Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp
 Gly Thr Pro Arg Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr Lys Arg His Gln Lys Phe
 Thr His Phe Leu Pro Arg Pro Val Asp Pro Asp

TTG GATCATTTAA AGGGGATTCT
 CAGGCGGAGG CAGCTATACT GCAGGACTGG ATTTCACTTA GAAATCTTCC
 CCAATGGTAC TATCCAGGGA ACCAGGAAAG ACCACAGCCG ATTTGGCATT
 CTGGAATTTA TCAGTATAGC AGTGGGGCCTG GTCAGCATTC GAGGCGTGGA
 CAGTGGACTC TACCTCGGGA TGAATGAGAA GGGGGAGCTG TATGGATCAG
 AAAAATAAC CCAAGAGTGT GTATTCAGAG AACAGTTCGA AGAAAACTGG
 TATAATACGT ACTCGTCAAA CCTATATAAG CACGTGGACA CTGGAAGGCG
 ATACTATGTT GCATTAAATA AAGATGGGAC CCCGAGAGAA GGGACTAGGA
 CTAAACGGCA CCAGAAATTC ACACATTTTT TACCTAGACC AGTGGACCCC GAC.