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PURIFICATION AND PARTIAL CHARACTERIZATION  
OF AEROMONAS HYDROPHILA HEMOLYSIN

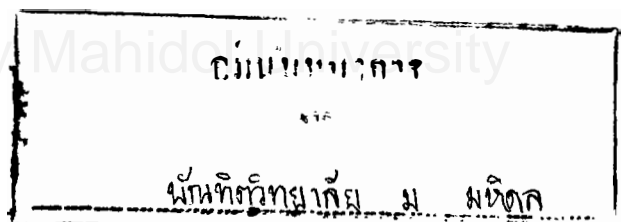
BY

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A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF  
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF  
MASTER OF SCIENCE  
(MICROBIOLOGY)

IN THE  
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES  
OF  
MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY  
1986

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## SUMMARY

1. Aeromonas hydrophila isolated from infected fish has been cultured. Conditions for culture have been established under which hemolytic activity of 68.79 HU/ml of culture has been observed
2. The hemolysin in the cell free culture medium has been shown to be thermo-labile with half life at 0°C for about 6 days. Evidence has been presented to show that the toxin polymerizes when lyophilized. In addition, it undergoes "activation" when heated at 10-37°C for 30 minutes.
3. The hemolysin has been purified to homogeneity using chromatography on DEAE-cellulose with salt gradient elution. The specific activity of the product is 121.2 HU/mg protein while overall recovery is 39.6 % with 14 folds of purification.
4. The hemolysin has been shown to contain one single polypeptide with molecular weight 54-55 Kdal. It is active in monomeric form.
5. The purified hemolysin has been subjected to amino acid analysis and shown to contain, excluding tryptophan, 502 residues. The extinction coefficient

$E_{280}^{1\%}$  is 4.92 while the molar extinction coefficient is  $1.3519 \times 10^5$

6. The pH activity curve was bimodal with optima at 6.0 and 7.5

7. A number of multivalent ions and reducing agents have been shown to inhibit the activity of the purified hemolysin.

