the specialized apparatus sections (Chapters 4, 5, and 8–11) address the methodologist. What this field still needs is an exhaustive review and evaluation, with emphasis on practical techniques rather than esoteric ones, of simple techniques over those requiring considerable skill and complex apparatus, and with a clear indication of which method is good for what.

ANDREAS CHRAMBACH


This volume is organized into a short section on general methodology and four parts on the purification and properties of specific protein kinases which include cyclic nucleotide-dependent protein kinases, calcium-dependent protein kinases, cyclic nucleotide and calcium-independent protein kinases, and tyrosine-specific protein kinases. Articles 1–5, 6–11, 26, 27, 30–32, 33–39, and 40–43 provide information on purification and assay techniques and on kinase characteristics and product identification. Articles 10 and 11 give purification and assay methods for the protein inhibitor of the cAMP-dependent protein kinase. In addition, articles 13 and 29 present synthetic and fragmentation methods for preparing peptides as substrates for kinases together with kinetic parameters for kinase-catalyzed phosphorylations of various synthetic peptides.

ANN GINSBURG

Briefly Noted


The subtitle of this volume describes the book: “Tabulation and Analysis of Amino Acid and Nucleic Acid Sequences of Precursors, V-Regions, C-Regions, J-Chain, beta-Microglobulins, Major Histocompatibility Antigens, Thy-1, Complement, C-Reactive Protein, Thymopoietin, Post-gamma Globulin, and alpha-Macroglobulin.” For those who would find these sequences of value, a copy may be obtained by writing to: Bolt, Beranek and Newman, Inc., 50 Moulton Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02238.


The Merck Index, subtitled “An Encyclopedia of Chemicals, and Biologicals,” is of such utility that the publication of its tenth edition is noteworthy. There are about 150 additional entries (a total of 10,000 entries) with an equal member of additional pages. However, the revision is broader, entailing a thousand newly prepared monographs, the deletion of 500 previous entries, and the combination of 100 entries with others. The several additional sections of the book have also been revised.
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