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# Horseradish and Soybean Peroxidases: Comparable Tools for Alternative Niches?

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1	Horseradish and Soybean Peroxidases: Comparable Tools for Alternative								
2	<u>Niches?</u>								
3									
4	Barry J. Ryan, Neil Carolan and Ciarán Ó'Fágáin*.								
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9	Horseradish and soybean peroxidases (HRP and SBP, respectively) are useful								
10	biotechnological tools. HRP is often termed the classical plant heme peroxidase, and								
11	although it has been studied for decades our understanding has deepened since its								
12	cloning and subsequent expression, which has enabled numerous mutational and								
13	protein engineering studies. SBP, however, has been neglected until recently; despite								
14	offering a real alternative to HRP that actually outperforms it in terms of stability.								
15	SBP is now used in numerous biotechnological applications, including biosensors.								
16	Review of both is timely. This article summarises and discusses the main insights into								
17	the structure and mechanism of HRP, with special emphasis on HRP mutagenesis, and								
18	outlines its use in a variety of applications. It also reviews current knowledge and								
19	applications to date of SBP, particularly biosensors. The final paragraphs speculate on								
20	the future of plant heme-based peroxidases, with probable trends outlined and								
21	explored.								
22									
23	Key Words: Horseradish Peroxidase, Soybean Peroxidase, Review, Biosensors, Biocatalysis, Mutagenesis.								
24									
25	[http://www.dcu.ie/biotechnology/index.shtml]								
26 27	[http://www.dcu.ie/~ncsr/]								
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28 29	Phone: +353-1-700 5288								
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31 32 33	Abbreviations: <b>ABTS</b> , 2,2'-Azino-di-(3-ethyl-benzthiazoline-6-sulphonic acid); <b>Co(bpy)</b> , Tris-2,2'-dipyridylocbalt(III) perchlorate trihydrate;								

CV, Cyclic voltammogram. DAB, 3,3'-diaminobenzidine tetrahydrochloride. DMPC, Dimyristoylphosphatidylcholine epoxidised olefins. DTT, dithiothreitol; ELISA, Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay. GOx, Glucose oxidase; GP, Graphite 3367 337 339 40 epoxidised olefins. **D11**, dithiothreitol; **ELISA**, Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay. **GOX**, Glucose oxidase; **GP**, Graphite Powder; **H**<sub>2</sub>**O**<sub>2</sub>, Hydrogen peroxide; **HQ**, hydroquinone; **IPTG**, iso-propyl-β-thiogalactoside; **MET**, mediated electron transfer; **mm**, millimetre. **PEGDGE**, Poly(ethylene glycol) (400) diglycidylether. **PeIB**, pectate lyase B fragment. **PDB**, Protein Data Bank; **POs-EA**, Os(bpy)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sup>+/2+</sup> poly(4-vinylpyridine) quaternerised with 2-bromoethylamine. **Pt**, Platinum. **PVA**, Polyvinyl alcohol. **PVP**, Polyvinyl pyridine. **PVP-Os**<sup>\*+</sup>, polyvinyl pyridine-osmium complex. **POCT**, point-of-care testing; **Px**, peroxidase. **Px**<sub>8x</sub>, oxidised peroxidase. **rHRP**, recombinant HRP; **TTCA**, poly-5,2':5',2"-terthiophene-3'-carboxylic acid.

#### 41 Introduction.

42 Peroxidase enzymes span the bioscience and biotechnology spectra, ranging from 43 bioremediation [1] and biocatalysis [2] through diagnostics [3] and biosensors [4] to 44 recombinant protein expression [5], transgenics [6], bioinformatics [7], protein 45 engineering [8] and even to therapeutics [9]. This article contrasts two key heme-46 containing plant peroxidases, horseradish (HRP) and soybean (SBP), with special 47 emphasis on mutagenesis studies and biosensor applications. HRP is a 'traditional' 48 enzyme, whereas SBP emerged in the 1990s. A comparison of these key 49 biotechnological tools is timely.

50

## 51 Brief biochemistry of horseradish and soybean peroxidase:

All heme peroxidases (E.C. 1.11.1.7) have a ferriprotoporphyrin IX prosthetic group located at the active site [10]. Both HRP and SBP are classified as Class III Classical Secretory plant peroxidases [7 & 11] and as such share common features (Table 1). Their catalytic mechanism involves a two-electron oxidation of the heme moiety to an intermediate known as Compound I. Successive one-electron reductions return the enzyme to its resting state via a second intermediate, Compound II [6].

58 Determining the *in vivo* function of peroxidases is complex owing to the numbers of 59 isoenzymes in[E1] the family [12]. Interestingly, despite the several *in vitro* uses of 60 HRP, its actual in vivo role has never been elucidated. Several suggestions have been 61 proposed based on the known roles of other plant peroxidases. Peroxidases are usually 62 found in the cell wall, vacuoles, transport organelles and the rough endoplasmic 63 reticulum, and have noted roles in lignification, wound healing and auxin catabolism 64 [4]. SBP has been isolated from that plant's seed coat and its presence prevents 65 premature germination<sub>[E2]</sub> [13]. Plant peroxidases can use lignin and other plant 66 compounds as reducing substrates. Indeed, SBP has been noted to polymerise 67 coniferyl alcohol, indicating that it can efficiently catalyse reactions involving lignin 68 precursors [14]. Therefore, it is possible that peroxidases are involved in the 69 lignification or suberisation processes of plants [15].

#### 70 Recombinant Peroxidase Expression.

71 Recombinant hemoprotein expression has been plagued by inclusion body formation, 72 most notably in recombinant HRP expression. Several general methods have been 73 suggested to reduce the formation of inclusion bodies, including reducing cultivation 74 temperature and altering inducer composition and concentration [16]. Other, more 75 peroxidase-specific, methodologies have been cited, including use of specific E. coli 76 strains [17], inclusion of chaperones [18] and use of leader sequences [19]. Another 77 major obstacle in the recombinant expression of hemoproteins is the limited 78 availability of heme and iron within a bacterial cell. Bacterial cells each contain  $10^{5}$  to 79  $10^6$  iron ions, which are essential for many metabolic pathways [20]. Culture 80 supplementation with the heme precursor  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid has been suggested 81 [21]; but Goodwin and co-workers have recently developed an elegant co-expression 82 system incorporating a membrane heme receptor, allowing the use of exogenous heme 83 as an iron source [22]. Jung and co-workers [5] noted an increased ratio of holoprotein 84 to apoprotein with less-intense induction conditions, suggesting that slow recombinant 85 hemoprotein production appears to allow easier incorporation of the available heme 86 into the apoprotein [5]. Developments in HRP expression in both prokaryotic and 87 eukaryotic systems are outlined in the supplementary online material.

88

#### 89 **HRP: Cloning and Expression.**

90 The gene coding for the HRP protein was first synthesised by Smith and co-workers 91 [23] based on the protein sequence published by Welinder [24]. This 940 basepairs 92 synthetic gene was designed using commonly used codons in E. coli to minimise 93 protein truncation owing to codon bias [25]. Recombinant HRP was over-expressed 94 by induction but this led to the formation of misfolded apoprotein and the requirement 95 to disrupt these aggregates, refold the protein correctly and add the heme centre. 96 Disruption involved addition of EDTA to chelate ions, lysozyme and DNAse to 97 reduce viscosity of the bacterial cell lysate, urea to solubilise the protein, and 98 dithiothreitol (DTT) to break disulphide bonds. Refolding required slow exchange of 99 disrupting reagents with folding facilitators such as calcium (for structural integrity), 100 oxidized glutathione (to reform disulphide bridges) and hemin (to provide the 101 prosthetic heme group) [23].

102

#### 103 SBP: Cloning and Expression.

104 The gene encoding SBP was first derived from a soybean plant cDNA library 105 screened with a peroxidase-specific probe [26]. The open reading frame for the SBP 106 protein was cloned into the pET-34b (+) expression vector; however, induction of 107 rSBP led to inclusion body formation and *E. coli* cell death. Active SBP was achieved 108 by a refolding strategy similar to that of HRP. Unlike rHRP refolding, however, 109 inclusion of oxidised glutathione in the refolding medium decreased active SBP 110 recovery, possibly due to the formation of mispaired disulphides [26]. Henriksen and 111 co-workers [15] also developed a recombinant SBP for crystallisation studies based 112 on previous cDNA work, in which they successfully refolded SBP from inclusion 113 bodies using a cocktail that included both oxidized and reduced glutathione [27]. 114 There have been several other recent examples of recombinantly expressed plant 115 peroxidases including Hushpulian and co-workers' [28] work on tobacco anionic 116 peroxidase.

#### 117 Mutagenesis of HRP.

118 Mutagenic studies on HRP began following successful cloning of a synthetic HRP 119 gene [23]. Before the elucidation of the crystal structure [29], most mutations focused 120 on ascertaining the key residues in the active site. Before 1997, researchers based their 121 assumptions on crystal structures of closely related peroxidases, such as cytochrome c 122 peroxidase, which suggested positions 38 through 42 as key catalytic residues. 123 Mutations of Arg 38, Phe 41 and His 42 led to dramatic decreases in peroxidase 124 catalytic activity. However, some Phe 41 mutants revealed an augmented thioether 125 sulfoxidation activity owing to increased access channel area [30].

126 Asn 70 was also noted as an important residue in HRP catalysis: although it lies some 127 distance from the heme iron atom, it is hydrogen-bonded to the side chain of the distal 128 His 42. [31] Mutations in this region showed a decrease in HRP activity and a re-129 orientation of active site residues. Mutation of Phe 221 altered the heme iron of the 130 resting enzyme to a quantum mixed-spin state [32]. Substitutions of Trp 117 revealed 131 this residue's role in protein folding and electron transfer [33]. Mutations within the 132 active site entrance revealed the key role of Phe 142 in binding aromatic molecules 133 [34], whilst mutations within the proximal region (the area below the heme plane) 134 disclosed the parts played by Phe 179 in aromatic molecule binding [35] and by His 135 170 in heme group anchorage [36]. Table 2 lists the various site directed HRP 136 mutants. Recent examples of site directed mutants of HRP have been fewer [37], but 137 Colas and de Montellano [38] identified the key role of carboxylate side chain amino 138 acids in HRP protein-heme interactions.

139 To date, there have been few reports of HRP random mutagenesis. Arnold and co-140 workers directionally evolved HRP with the aim of increasing activity and stability. 141 Development of a stabilised recombinant HRP is of great importance to increase and 142 consolidate the range of peroxidase applications. Three rounds of random mutagenesis 143 improved expression in yeast, yielding a nine-position HRP mutant displaying an 85-144 fold increase in activity over the parental molecule. One round of random mutagenesis 145 was also carried out to improve stability, resulting in three mutants more stable than 146 the parent in relation to temperature and  $H_2O_2$  tolerance (supplementary online 147 material) [8, 19, 39, & 40]. Recent publications suggest that targeted, "semi-rational", 148 evolution of enzymes might yield superior mutants in less time [41 and references 149 within]. Mendive and co-workers developed a rapid screening methodology for 150 random mutants displaying increased peroxidase activity, using DAB as substrate.

151 Whereas Arnold and co-workers expressed HRP in E. coli, S. cerevisiae. and P.

152 *pastoris*, Mendive and co-workers utilised a baculovirus expression system [42].

No mutagenesis studies on recombinant SBP have been reported to date, and the authors believe that this requires urgent attention. For example, mutagenesis could reveal which residues in SBP endow it with its enhanced stability *vis a vis* HRP [15]. Also, similar to HRP, SBP could be subjected to focussed directed evolution to increase the number of substrates accepted.

158

## 159 HRP in Biosensors

160 One of the most common uses of HRP is in biosensors. A biosensor is "an analytical 161 device that brings together an immobilised biological sensing material [often HRP] 162 and a transducer to produce an electronic signal that is proportional to the 163 concentration of the target chemical substance" [43]. Although reports of SBP-based 164 biosensors are emerging, HRP biosensor research dominates and has continued to 165 develop through many forms, from the traditional voltammetric- and amperometric-166 based methods of detection, to nano-sized devices. Real time quantification of 167 hydrogen peroxide continues to be one of the main reasons for sensor development 168 [44], although other diverse applications include the detection of glucose [45], ethanol 169 [46] and tumour markers in vivo [47]. Enzyme-based biosensors require rapid and 170 uniform transfer of electrons generated at the enzyme active site to the transducer. 171 The distance between the active site and the transducer can hinder electron transfer; 172 often, posttranslational modifications such as glycosylation increase this distance. 173 Recombinant HRP, devoid of glycans, offers a shorter path for electron transfer and 174 numerous reports of rHRP-based sensors have appeared [48 and references 175 within].While a detailed review of HRP-based sensors is beyond the scope of this 176 article, we outline some of the emerging trends in HRP-based biosensor development. 177 Biosensors, including immunosensnors [49] and electrosensors [50], incorporating 178 organic solvents have developed as an expanding area of peroxidase research, 179 primarily due to insolubility of many analytes in aqueous solutions. Recently, Konash 180 and Magner [51] developed a HRP-immobilised, mediated H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> sensor, which 181 demonstrated good catalytic activity in 2-butanone and ethyl acetate. Organic solvent 182 compatible bi-enzyme peroxidase sensors have also been cited in the literature [52].

Size reduction remains a pivotal area in sensor research. The use of nanoparticles offers increased surface area for enzyme immobilisation, whilst simultaneously reducing apparatus size [53]. Currently, HRP-based nano-sensors are at the forefront of biosensor research [54 and Table 3].

187

## 188 **SBP in biosensors.**

189 Although HRP is the classical heme peroxidase, there is increasing interest in SBP. 190 SBP has advantages over HRP in terms of catalytic activity and stability [55]; these 191 can be exploited in biosensors. Also, unlike HRP, SBP is active in the pH range 2-6, 192 offering a greater range of potential biosensing applications [56]. The first SBP 193 biosensor was reported in 1995 by Vreeke and co-workers [57] as a thermostable 194 wired enzyme electrode using an osmium-based mediator, which aids electron transfer 195 from the active site to the electrode, modified by an epoxide. Kenausis and co-196 workers [58] also used a poly(4-vinylpyridine) polymer, complexing the pyridine 197 nitrogens to the osmium-based mediator, quaternised with 2-bromoethylamine. Until 198 the use of SBP by Heller and Vreeke [59], no peroxidase-based sensors could be used 199 at 37°C for an extended period (~100 hours). Monitoring of glucose "in vivo" for 200 diabetes mellitus, and of lactate for confirmation of hypoxia and ischemia, are vital in 201 patient management; use of thermostable SBP immobilised into a mediator enables 202 this [59].

The typical electrochemical reactions of a  $H_2O_2$  sensing peroxidase based, osmiummediated electrode system are outlined in Box 1 [60]. In addition to conveying electrons, generated at the active site, to the electrode surface, the pyridin-N-ethylene groups of the osmium-containing mediator also increase the hydration and provide primary amines for cross-linking [58].

208 Table 3 summarizes reports to date of SBP-based biosensors, most of which use a 209 mediator.  $H_2O_2$  can be electrochemically detected by its electrooxidation on a Pt (or 210 other inert Pt group metal) electrode [59]. Utilisation of an enzyme/mediator system 211 produces a multi-step mediated electron-transfer (MET) process, in which each step 212 transports the electron a small distance [61]. However, use of a mediator with a redox 213 enzyme can create its own problems: the mediator-enzyme film can, depending upon 214 its thickness, obstruct substrate diffusion [62]. Chemical modification of redox 215 enzymes with an electron relay moiety can increase multi-step MET by decreasing the 216 electron transfer distance. This leads to improved electrical communication between

- the enzyme's redox centre and its external environment [61].
- 218

## 219 Peroxidase based Micro- and Nano-Systems

220 An emerging field in peroxidase research is the use of micro- and nano- sized 221 structures in diagnostic and biosensing fields. Enzyme microreactors, for example, 222 permit chemical and biochemical reactions to be carried out on a microscale. HRP has 223 previously been used as a model microreactor system to monitor HRP catalytic 224 activity and as a diagnostic tool; however, the development of this field will be 225 determined by the ability to immobilise peroxidases onto suitable support structures 226 [63]. Miniaturisation of enzymatic processes is also evident in the diagnostics sector, 227 in "Lab on a Chip" and "Point of Care Testing" (POCT) research. The classical application of HRP in POCT is Clinistix<sup>TM</sup>; however, recently Cho and co-workers 228 229 [64] have applied HRP to a portable sequential cross flow immunoanalytical device. 230 Cross flow imumunoassays are capable of introducing the antigen-antibody complex 231 to the flow cell whilst sequentially extracting the catalytic signal, thus simplifying the 232 complex traditional ELISA procedure. This device demonstrates many advantages 233 over ELISA-based analytical methodologies including a rapid, sensitive and 234 inexpensive in-situ diagnosis for the presence of Hepatitis B surface antigen in a 235 sample. Miniaturisation of peroxidase-based devices also features in other research 236 fields, including the use of micro-crystals for oxidoreductase-based catalysis in 237 organic solvent [65], nano-immobilisation techniques for peroxidase based 238 wastewater treatment [66], and a more widespread use of nano-structures for 239 peroxidase based sensors [67 & 68]. Recently Yan and co-workers [69] described a 240 microcantilever based biosensor, modified with HRP, for  $H_2O_2$  detection. In this 241 system the enzyme-functionalised microcantilievers deflected irreversibly in response 242 to  $H_2O_2$  concentrations in the nanomolar range. The deflection was caused by 243 conformational change within the HRP molecule as it underwent oxidation by the 244  $H_2O_2$ ; the irreversibility was due to the absence of a second, reducing substrate 245 required for reversion of HRP to the resting state. This technique may also provide a 246 sensitive tool for investigating protein structural change. HRP has also been utilised as 247 the functional component of self-assembled three-dimensional (3-D) nano-structures. 248 Rauf and co-workers [70] utilised self-assembly layer-by-layer technology to

construct controlled 3-D catalytically active nano-structures. This method of peroxidase immobilisation allows for increased catalytic activity per unit area, and will aid in the miniaturisation of biosensors, biochips and immobilised biocatalysts. With increasing sophistication of support structures on the micro- and nano-scale, miniaturisation of peroxidase-based devices will continue to develop in the future, particularly in the fields of POCT and biosensing.

255

## 256 Peroxidase based Biocatalysis.

257 A major shortcoming of all heme-dependent peroxidases is their low operational 258 stability, owing to oxidative degeneration of the heme group [71]. Operational 259 stability of SBP can be increased by generating  $H_2O_2$  in situ from glucose and  $O_2$ . 260 When co-immobilized with glucose oxidase in a polyurethane foam, SBP could act as 261 a peroxygenase to convert thioanisole to its sulphoxide (i.e. by inserting an oxygen 262 atom). Here, SBP uses the  $H_2O_2$  generated in situ by glucose oxidase; it formed no 263 sulphoxide with free, exogenous  $H_2O_2$  [71]. Such an arrangement avoids excessive 264 initial H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> concentrations and, hence, formation of compound III (a reversible dead-265 end complex formed from compound II in the presence of an excess H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, which 266 slowly reverts to native enzyme; [10]) and/or irreversibly inhibited SBP. HRP has 267 been subjected to intense experimentation, including a large body of work focussing 268 on site directed mutants (see above and Table 2). Now that the key catalytic residues 269 are known, researchers have begun to use site directed mutagenesis to alter the 270 function of the HRP molecule [48], e.g. by construction of an improved luminol 271 binding site [72]. Directed evolution stabilised HRP against thermal denaturation [39] 272 and has endowed it with increased H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> tolerance and increased catalytic activity 273 [40]. Further targeted directed evolution, focussing on the substrate access channel 274 and binding pocket, could allow HRP to accept an increased variety of substrates [73], 275 and promote further diversification of HRP applications in organic synthesis [41]. 276 Peroxidase catalysis in organic solvents, both aqueous and anhydrous, offers a huge 277 advantage to organic chemists, as difficult asymmetric oxidation and reduction 278 reactions can take place rapidly and with high specificity [74]. The major problems of 279 substrate solubility and unwanted side reactions promoted by water are also overcome 280 during organic solvent based synthesis. Additionally, in some anhydrous solvents 281 peroxidase (HRP and SBP) activity was actually increased [75], with additional

282 methods, such as salt activation [76] and excipient aided lyophilisation [77] also 283 resulting in increased peroxidase activity. However, in some low water solvents, 284 peroxidases can lose their confirmational structure [78]; although recent advances in 285 peroxidase encapsulation in amphiphilic matrices [79], the use of reverse micelles 286 [80] and oil emulsions [81] allow for peroxidase activity in an extended range of 287 anhydrous solvents. Reactions carried out in these solvents include hydroxylations, N-288 demethylations and sulphoxidations [2]. An interesting recent environmental 289 application of SBP polymerisation in organic solvents is the production of 290 polycardanol in as a potential anti-biofouling agent [82], whilst recently it has been 291 noted that HRP requires a mediator to catalyse the same substrate [83]. The interested 292 reader is directed to a recent review of this area [74].

293

## 294 **Peroxidase based Bioremediation.**

295 Highly expressed, stabilized, recombinant HRP [39, 40] could be very useful for 296 wastewater cleanup, provided the recombinant enzyme can be produced cost 297 effectively and in sufficient quantities. Phenol cleanup by HRP has been widely 298 reviewed [1] but several drawbacks limit its widespread application, including 299 intolerance of high concentrations of the primary substrate  $H_2O_2$  [84], low enzymatic 300 reusability, and financial costs. Plant heme peroxidase expression in *E.coli* can be 301 frustrating, but advances in peroxidase expression, without formation of inclusion 302 bodies, may pave the way for increased production of recombinant peroxidases (See 303 supplementary online material). SBP has proven itself a worthy alternative 304 peroxidase: it displays superior stability and activity characteristics to the classical 305 HRP. However, research into this enzyme lags far behind HRP. SBP can effectively 306 cleanup phenolic wastewater, yet recent publications cite HRP as being a superior, 307 albeit less stable, catalyst than SBP for phenol cleanup [85]. Development of an 308 enhanced catalytic SBP mutant would provide a powerful tool for wastewater 309 treatment. Bódalo and co-workers [85] noted that the choice of peroxidase for 310 wastewater treatment also depends on effluent characteristics, operational 311 requirements and costs. SBP has been shown to outperform HRP in oxidative dye 312 removal [86]. SBP, possibly owing to its larger substrate access channel, and, hence, 313 greater exposure of the catalytically important delta heme edge, can accept more 314 substrates than HRP [87].

315

## 316 HRP: an Unlikely Therapeutic

317 An exciting application of HRP is as a novel cancer treatment via gene-directed 318 enzyme/prodrug therapy. It has been noted that the non-toxic HRP substrate, indole-3-319 acetic acid (IAA), forms a radical that is toxic to cancer cells upon HRP catalysis. The 320 exact mechanism of toxicity remains unclear: it is believed to involve lipid 321 peroxidation induced by the free radical formation [88]; however, in human 322 melanoma cells, death receptor-mediated and mitochondrial apoptotic pathways are 323 known to be involved also [89]. Leaving aside the actual reason(s) for toxicity, 324 inactive IAA can be introduced to the body; and then becomes activated by HRP at 325 the region of interest. Localisation of the HRP molecule is achieved via its 326 conjugation to an antibody specific to an extracellular tumour antigen. This approach 327 has become the focus of much research and numerous clinical trials, due to several 328 attractive features: these include the robust nature of the activating enzyme and the 329 low toxicity of the prodrug [90]. HRP has been shown to activate other pro-drugs 330 including ellipticine [91] and halogenated IAA derivates [92]. The interested reader is 331 directed to the excellent recent review of Dachs et al. [93].

#### 332 Conclusion and Future Directions:

333 As outlined, peroxidases are widely studied and very important enzymes, with many 334 applications in the life sciences and beyond. They remain pivotal to advancing 335 biotechnology, and as such, we present two clearly distinct, yet similar members of 336 this classical family. Continued research into the "traditional" HRP, has been 337 accompanied by the slow, but steady progression of SBP. Crude SBP, isolated from 338 waste soybean hulls, offers a cheap bulk peroxidase catalyst for applications such as 339 wastewater treatment and organic synthesis, whilst the more costly peroxidase 340 alternatives (plant HRP and recombinant HRP and SBP) will prove themselves in 341 higher value niches, such as diagnostics and therapeutics. With improved 342 understanding of the catalytic and stability characteristics, the detection of new 343 substrates and the increasing use of implantable devices in the medical field, SBP will 344 rapidly develop its own high value market niche. As noted for HRP, use of 345 recombinant SBP would also benefit the biosensor field by permitting more rapid 346 electron transfer, due to the lack of protein glycosylation. Improvement of these two 347 peroxidases, by rational mutation and "focussed" directed evolution, will widen their 348 applications and expand their roles as key biotechnological tools in the future.

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**Box**[E4] **1:** Typical biosensor based on a mediated peroxidase (Px) reaction scheme. Upon the addition of  $H_2O_2$ , Px catalyses the reaction forming water; in the process, Px goes through its catalytic cycle. This causes the mediator to go from its resting state of  $Os^{2+}$  to  $Os^{3+}$ . The osmium species is seen as a one-electron donor, used as the mediator to assist in electron transfer from the active site of Px to the electrode surface.  $Px_{ox}$  corresponds to the catalytic intermediate Compound I, formed by a two-electron oxidation. The individual one-electron reduction steps that take place on the enzyme itself (formation of catalytic intermediate Compound II and reversion to resting enzyme, Px) have been omitted from equation 2 for the sake of clarity. Adapted from *Analytica Chimica Acta*. **418**, Li W. et al. (2000). Fabrication of multilayer films containing horseradish peroxidase and polycation-bearing Os complex by means of electrostatic layer-by-layer adsorption and its applications as a hydrogen peroxide sensor. 225-232. [60] Copyright 2000, with permission from Elsevier.

	Horseradish Peroxidase	Soybean Peroxidase
Species Name	Armoracia rusticana [23]	<i>Glycine max</i> [14]
Number of Amino Acids	306 [23]	306 [94]
Enzyme Classification	1.11.1.7 [29]	1.11.1.7 [15]
PDB Accession Number	1ATJ	1FHF
Molecular Weight	44,100 Da [6]	40,660 Da [15]
Carbohydrate	7,580 Da [6]	7,400 Da [15]
Heme Group	550 Da [6]	550 Da [15]
Calcium Ions	80 Da [6]	80 Da [15]
Glycosylation Sites	Asn: 13, 57, 158, 186, 198,	Asn: 185, 197, 211, 216 [96]
	214, 255, 268, 316 [95]	
pI	9.0 [24]	4.1 [14]
pH Activity Range	4-8 [97]	2-10 [15]
Secondary Structure	13 α-helices	13 $\alpha$ -helices
	3 β-sheets [29]	2 β-sheets [15]
Disulphide Bridges	11-91, 44-49, 97-301, 177-209	11-91, 44-49, 97-299, 176-208
	[29]	[15]
In vivo localisation	Roots, cell wall, vacuoles [6]	Hourglass cells, seed coat [14]

Table 1: Comparison of the biochemical and structural properties of HRP and SBP. Key references are noted.

Table 2: Summary of HRP site directed mutants[E5]

Mutations		Conclusions					
Active Site. [98, 99, & 100]							
R38A	F41T	Arg38 and His42 are key residues in enzyme catalysis.					
R38E	F41V	Arg38 and His42mutations decrease Compound I formation.					
R38G	F41W	Mutants affect reactivity towards reducing substrates. NB- Morimoto ref					
R38H	H42A	Arg 38 and His42 are acid base partners. Arg 38 stabilises His 42.					
R38K	H42E	Arg38 and His42 operate in concert to distally bind BHA.					
R38L	H42L	Arg38 and His42 are dioxygen-heterolytic cleavers					
R38S	H42Q	Arg38 plays a role in $H_2O_2$ binding and cleavage.					
F41A	H42R	Hydrophobicity of active site region is critical in enzymatic catalysis.					
F41H	H42V	Space creating active site mutants alter substrate specificity.					
F41L		Phe41 acts as hydrophobic barrier between Arg38 and His42.					
Active S	ite Entranc	ce. [101]					
S35K	F143E	Phe 142 plays a critical role in aromatic substrate binding.					
F142A	F176E	Charged residues are important at the active site entrance.					
F143A		Luminol binds to active site via electrostatic interactions in binding area.					
Proxima	l Region. [	102 & 36]					
F179A	H170A	Phe 179 is crucial for aromatic substrate binding.					
F179H	F172T	His 170 tethers heme moiety in position. Prevents distal His coordination.					
F179S		His 170 maintains heme moiety in penta-coordinated state.					
Asparag	<b>ine 70.</b> [103	]					
N70V	N70D	Asn70 hydrogen bonds to His42, mutations alter distal heme orientation.					
		Mutant protein displays increased redox potential.					
Tryptop	<b>han 117.</b> [3	3 & 104]					
W117F		Mutants displayed increased acid stability.					
		Trp 117 is important in internal electron transfer and protein unfolding.					
Threoni	ne 171. [37]						
T171S		Proximal structural alteration, affects proximal pocket hydrogen bonding.					
Phenyla	lanine 221.	[105 & 32]					
F221M	F221W	Mutants display decreased stability in alkaline conditions.					
		Trp introduction destabilises protein, due to unfavourable surroundings.					

Footnote:

Mutants are grouped into active site, active site entrance, proximal heme region, aspargine 70, tryptophan 117 and Phe 221 mutations. Mutants were expressed in a variety of hosts including *E.coli*, *Trichoplusia ni*, and *Spodoptera fruigiperda* cell lines. Key references only are noted for each collection of mutants; further references may be found within these.

Electrode type	Size of Electrode	Enzyme	Method of immobilisation	Mediator	Analyte measured	Method of measurement	Reference
Soybean Peroxi	dase						
Glassy carbon	4mm	SBP	Adsorption	PVA/PVP	$H_2O_2$	Amperometry	[106]
Glassy carbon	4mm	SBP	Entrapment	Sol-gel	$H_2O_2$	Amperometry	[56]
Glassy carbon	3mm	SBP	Entrapment	Pos-EA, PEGDGE	$H_2O_2$	Amperometry	[59]
Pyrolitic graphite (Rotating disk)	0.2mm	SBP	Entrapment	DMPC	$H_2O_2$	Amperometry /CV	[107]
Glassy carbon	3mm	GOx/SBP	Entrapment	Pos-EA	Glucose	Amperometry	[58]

Horseradish Peroxidase							
Gold	-	HRP	Adsorption	DNA	$H_2O_2$	Amperometry	[108]
Glassy Carbon	3mm	HRP	Adsorption	HQ	$H_2O_2$	Amperometry	[53]
Carbon Ceramic	6mm	HRP	Covalent	Nano Au	$H_2O_2$	Amperometry	[109]
Carbon Paste	7mm	HRP	Entrapment	GP	Biogenic Amine	Amperometry	[110]
Titanium	0.8mm	HRP	Adsorption	Thionine	$H_2O_2$	Amperometry	[111]
Platinum	1mm	HRP	Entrapment	Co(bpy)	$H_2O_2$	Amperometry	[112]
Carbon Fibre	3mm	Cho/HRP	Adsorption	Os- PVP	Choline	Amperometry	[113]
Platinum	7mm	Cho/HRP	Adsorption	TTCA	Choline	Amperometry	114

Recombinant HRP								
Gold	0.15mm	rHRP	Adsorption	Direct	$H_2O_2$	Amperometry	[115]	
Graphite Rotating disk	3mm	rHRP	Adsorption	Direct	$H_2O_2$	Amperometry	[116]	
Gold	0.3mm	CytC / rHRP	Adsoprtion	Direct	Superoxid e Anion radical	Amperometry	[117]	
Gold	0.15mm	L-LO / rHRP	Adsorption	Direct	L-lysine	Amperometry	[118]	

**Table 3:** Some SBP, HRP and rHRP biosensors, and their properties, from the literature.