However, it does not react either with human IgG3, IgD or with the following murine immunoglobulins: IgM, IgA and IgE.

Target proteins to which the method according to the invention may be applied are all those proteins that have an Fc domain, such as immunoglobulins. Immunoglobulins may be polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies which are expressed in hybridoma cells or recombinant host cells. Such antibodies may have been produced originally by immunising animals, particularly mammals, including transgenic animals, e.g. mice that express human immunoglobulins. Suitable target proteins also, however, include fusion proteins in which any desired protein and the Fc domain of an immunoglobulin have been fused.

Protein A matrices for the purposes of the invention are affinity chromatography matrices which contain immobilised protein as ligands. These include affinity matrices which contain wild-type protein A, for example from *Staphylococcus aureus* as ligand. A description of protein A can be found *inter* alia in Lofdahl, S. et al., 1983 (Lindmark, R., Thoren-Tolling, K., Sjoquist J (1983); Binding of immunoglobulins to protein A and immunoglobulin levels in mammalian sera: J Immunol Methods 1983 Aug 12;62(1):1-13.) and Lindmark et. al., 1983 (Lindmark, R., Thoren-Toiling, K., Sjoquist J (1983); Binding of immunoglobulins to protein A and immunoglobulin levels in mammalian sera: J Immunol Methods 1983 Aug 12;62(1):1-13.). In addition, the ~~invention also relates to~~ matrices ~~with~~ can contain recombinantly produced protein A as ligand. Recombinant protein A is described by way of example by Duggleby C.J. and Jones, S.A., 1983 (Duggleby, C.J. and Jones, S.A. (1983), Cloning and expression of Staphylococcus aureus protein A gene in Escherichia coli. Nuci.Acid.Res. 1983 May 25; 11(10):3065-76.) or Li, R. et al., 1998 (Li, R. Dowd, V., Stewart, D.J., Burton, SJ. Lowe, C.R., Design, Synthesis and application of a protein A mimetic. Nat.Biotechnol. 1998 Feb; 16(2):190-5.) and is known in the art.

The protein A may be coupled to various carrier materials such as for example agaroses, polysaccharides, dextranes, silica gels and glass beads. A non-definitive list of suitable carrier materials can be found in Harlow, E. and Lane, D. 1999. One carrier material that is frequently used is formed by agarose-based materials such as for example the "sepharoses" made by Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, Uppsala, Sweden, which are