

Prometheus Protocol PR-P-002

# Chemical Unfolding of Lysozyme

Lysozyme is an enzyme that prevents bacterial infections by attacking peptidoglycan, a component of certain bacterial cell walls. Peptidoglycan is composed of the repeating amino sugars N-acetylglucosamine (NAG) and N-acetylmuramic acid (NAM), which are crosslinked by peptide bridges. Lysozyme hydrolyzes the bond between NAG and NAM, increasing the bacteria's permeability and causing the bacteria to burst. It is widely distributed in plants and animals. The majority of the lysozyme used in research is purified from hen egg whites.

chemical unfolding | guanidine hydrochloride |  $\Delta G$  |  $c_{50}$

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## A1. Target/Fluorescent Molecule

Lysozyme

[uniprot.org/uniprot/B8YK79](https://uniprot.org/uniprot/B8YK79)

## A2. Molecule Class/Organism

Glycoside hydrolases

*Gallus gallus* (Chicken)

## A3. Sequence/Formula

KVFGRCELAA AMKRHGLDNY RGYSLGNWVC AAKFESNFNT QATNRNTDGS TDYGILQINS RWWCNDGRTP GSRNLCNIPC  
SALLSSDITA SVNCAKKIVS DNGMNAWVA WRNRCKGTDV QAWIRGCRL

## A4. Purification Strategy/Source/Batch-No.

Sigma-Aldrich GmbH

[L6876](#)

## A5. Stock Concentration/Stock Buffer

32  $\mu\text{g}$  lyophilized powder

## A6. Molecular Weight/Extinction Coefficient

14.3 kDa

37,970  $\text{M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$  ( $\epsilon_{280}$ )

## A7. Dilution Buffer

Phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), pH 7.4

## D1. nanoDSF System/Capillaries

Prometheus NT.48 (NanoTemper Technologies GmbH)

Standard Capillaries Prometheus NT.48 nanoDSF Grade (PR-C002, NanoTemper Technologies GmbH)

## D2. nanoDSF Software

PR.ChemControl v1.4 (NanoTemper Technologies GmbH)

[nanotempertech.com/prometheus-software](http://nanotempertech.com/prometheus-software)

## D3. nanoDSF Experiment

1. Dissolve 764 mg of guanidine hydrochloride (GuHCl, MW 95.53) in 1 mL of dilution buffer to obtain an 8 M solution. Heat the solution until all GuHCl is dissolved.
2. Prepare 24 small PCR tubes according to the following table:

Tube	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8 M GuHCl (μL):	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13
Dilution buffer (μL):	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Final GuHCl (M):	6	5.75	5.5	5.25	5	4.75	4.5	4.25	4	3.75	3.5	3.25

Tube	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8 M GuHCl (μL):	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Dilution buffer (μL):	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Final GuHCl (M):	3	2.75	2.5	2.25	2	1.75	1.5	1.25	1	0.75	0.5	0.25

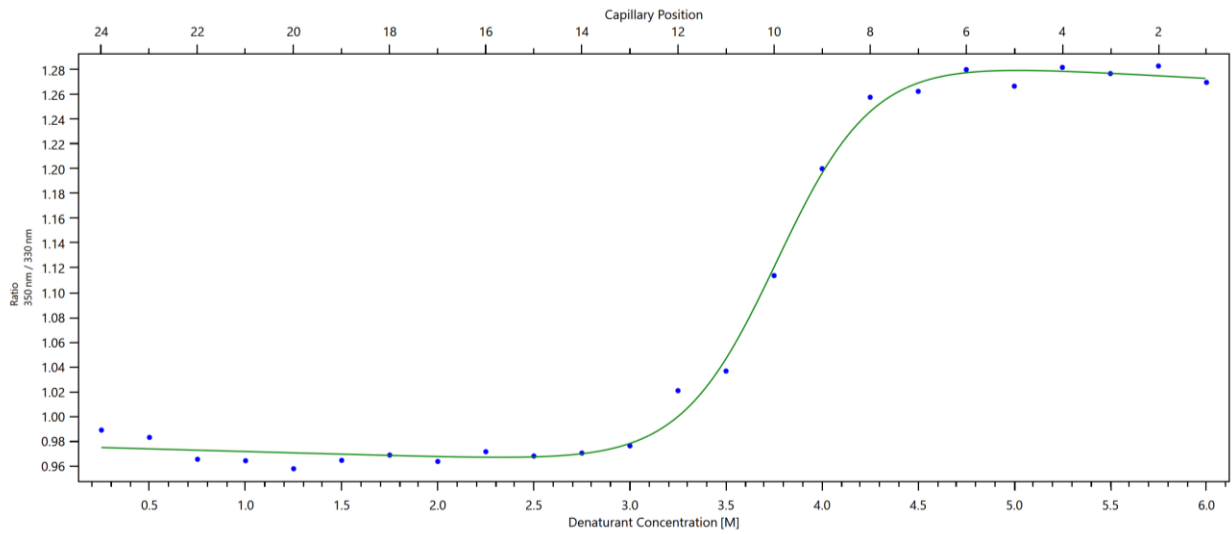
3. Resuspend 32 μg lysozyme in 64 μL of dilution buffer to obtain a 0.5 mg/mL solution.
4. Add 2 μL of this solution to each vial from step 2, mix well and incubate for at least 1 hour<sup>1</sup> at room temperature to ensure equilibrium.
5. Load 24 capillaries with the solutions from step 3 and place them on positions 1 to 24 of the capillary tray according to the vial number. Place the magnetic lid to fix the capillaries.
6. Start a new session of the *PR.ChemControl* software.
7. Go to 'Plan' and prepare a run with the following settings:
  - a. Start concentration: 6 M
  - b. End concentration: 0.25 M
8. Start the measurement.

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<sup>1</sup> As Lysozyme is a quite small protein, equilibration takes place rather fast and an incubation time of about 1 hour is sufficient. Larger biomolecules such as monoclonal antibodies often require a much longer incubation time to equilibrate sufficiently and at least overnight incubation (better 24 – 72 hours) is recommended. Performing the measurement too early will lead to incorrect  $\Delta G$  and  $c_{50}$  values.

### D4. nanoDSF Results

$\Delta G = 36.5 \text{ kJ/mol}$  |  $c_{50} = 3.8 \text{ M}$



### D5. Reference Results/Supporting Results

$\Delta G = 37.2 \text{ kJ/mol}$  |  $c_{50} = 4.2 \text{ M}$

Absorbance measurements  
[Ahmond et al., Biochem J 287 \(1992\) 481-485](#)

### E. Contributors

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