

HDAC8 protein sample with 50 mM sodium phosphate, 100 mM 15NH4Cl, 1 mM TCEP, 1 mM NaN3, pH 8.0

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Field strength: 500 MHz

Why is this your favorite spectrum?

NMR shows the bound ammonium (¹⁵N) peak to one among two potassium binding sites of HDAC8 protein. The free ammonium exchanges fast in solution so only the bound ammonium shows this peak in ¹⁵N-edited spectra. NMR shows it directly with high spatial resolution for a weak binding event compared to other techniques followed in biochemistry like enzyme activity or stability, fluorescence or isothermal titration calorimetry.

Comments: If you vary pH, more interesting things can be observed when ammonium (15N) ion replaces potassium in such proteins.