

Product Information

Thermolysin from *Geobacillus stearothermophilus*

T7902

Storage Temperature –0 °C

Synonyms: Protease from *Bacillus thermoproteolyticus*, Thermophilic-bacterial protease

Product Description

Thermolysin is a thermostable extracellular metalloendopeptidase that binds one zinc ion and four calcium ions as cofactors. It has a low substrate specificity and thus produces a number of short fragments suitable for sequencing. Thermolysin is used to do limited proteolysis for peptide mapping and studies of protein structure and conformational changes.^{2,3,4,5,6}

This product is cell culture tested and is suitable for use in cell culture experiments.

Thermolysin hydrolyzes protein bonds on the N-terminal side of hydrophobic amino acid residues, with preferential cleavage as follows:

X-(cleavage site)-Y-Z

X = any amino acid

Y = Leu, Phe, Ile, Val, Met, Ala

Z = any amino acid other than Pro

Cleavage N-terminal to Leu is preferred over cleavage N-terminal to Phe, which in turn is preferred over cleavage N-terminal to the other amino acids. The optimum pH of the reaction is 8.0 and the optimal temperature for activity is 70 °C. Thermolysin has considerable stability over the pH range 5-9.5.

The crystal structure of thermolysin to 1.6 Å resolution has been reported.⁷ The isolation, cloning, and expression in *Bacillus subtilis* of the gene coding for thermolysin from *Bacillus thermoproteolyticus* has been published.⁸

Molecular Weight

34.6 kDa (calculated)¹

CAS Number

9073-78-3

Enzyme Commission (EC) Number:

3.4.24.27

λ_{max}

280 nm

Extinction coefficient

 $E^{1\%} = 17.65$

pI

4.45

Precautions and Disclaimer

For Laboratory Use Only. Not for drug, household or other uses.

Preparation Instructions

This product is soluble in acetate buffer, pH 7.5 (0.2 mg/mL), yielding a clear to very slightly hazy, colorless solution.

References

1. Titani, K., Hermodson, M. A., Ericsson, L. H., Walsh, K. A., & Neurath, H. (1972). Amino-acid sequence of thermolysin. *Nature new biology*, 238(80), 35-37.
2. Schwartz, T., Lowenhaupt, K., Kim, Y. G., Li, L., Brown II, B. A., Herbert, A., & Rich, A. (1999). Proteolytic dissection of Zab, the Z-DNA-binding domain of human ADAR1. *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, 274(5), 2899-2906.
3. Gwizdek, C., Leblanc, G., & Bassilana, M. (1997). Proteolytic mapping and substrate protection of the Escherichia coli melibiose permease. *Biochemistry*, 36(28), 8522-8529.
4. Fontana, A., Zambonin, M., de Laureto, P. P., De Filippis, V., Clementi, A., & Scaramella, E. (1997). Probing the conformational state of apomyoglobin by limited proteolysis. *Journal of Molecular Biology*, 266(2), 223-230.
5. Alonso, M. C., van Damme, J., Vandekerckhove, J., & Cross, R. A. (1998). Proteolytic mapping of kinesin/cd-microtubule interface: nucleotide-dependent conformational changes in the loops L8 and L12. *The EMBO Journal*.
6. Burgess, R. R., Arthur, T. M., & Pietz, B. C. (2000). [11] Mapping protein-protein interaction domains using ordered fragment ladder far-Western analysis of hexahistidine-tagged fusion proteins. In *Methods in enzymology* (Vol. 328, pp. 141-157). Academic Press.
7. Holmes, M. A., & Matthews, B. (1982). Structure of thermolysin refined at 1.6 Å resolution. *Journal of molecular biology*, 160(4), 623-639.
8. O'Donohue, M. J., Roques, B. P., & Beaumont, A. (1994). Cloning and expression in Bacillus subtilis of the npr gene from Bacillus thermoproteolyticus Rokko coding for the thermostable metalloprotease thermolysin. *Biochemical Journal*, 300(2), 599-603.

Notice

We provide information and advice to our customers on application technologies and regulatory matters to the best of our knowledge and ability, but without obligation or liability. Existing laws and regulations are to be observed in all cases by our customers. This also applies in respect to any rights of third parties. Our information and advice do not relieve our customers of their own responsibility for checking the suitability of our products for the envisaged purpose.

The information in this document is subject to change without notice and should not be construed as a commitment by the manufacturing or selling entity, or an affiliate. We assume no responsibility for any errors that may appear in this document.

Technical Assistance

Visit the tech service page at [SigmaAldrich.com/techservice](https://www.sigmaaldrich.com/techservice).

Terms and Conditions of Sale

Warranty, use restrictions, and other conditions of sale may be found at [SigmaAldrich.com/terms](https://www.sigmaaldrich.com/terms).

Contact Information

For the location of the office nearest you, go to [SigmaAldrich.com/offices](https://www.sigmaaldrich.com/offices).

The life science business of Merck operates as MilliporeSigma in the U.S. and Canada.

Merck and Sigma-Aldrich are trademarks of Merck or its affiliates. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. Detailed information on trademarks is available via publicly accessible resources.

© 2007-2025 Merck and/or its affiliates. All Rights Reserved.
23273246 Rev 09/25

The Merck logo is displayed in a bold, red, sans-serif font.