

1 Hydrogen/deuterium exchange behavior during denaturing/refolding processes  
2 determined in tetragonal hen egg-white lysozyme crystals

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5 Akiko Kita\* and Yukio Morimoto\*

6  
7 Institute for Integrated Radiation and Nuclear Science, Kyoto University, Kumatori,  
8 Sen-nan, Osaka 590-0494, Japan

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10 \*To whom correspondence should be addressed. Tel: +81-72-451-2379; Fax: +81-72-  
11 451-2635; E-mail: kita.akiko.4u@kyoto-u.ac.jp, and Tel/Fax: +81-72-451-2371; E-  
12 mail: morimoto.yukio.3z@kyoto-u.ac.jp

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19 refinement, denatured/refolded protein.

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21 **Synopsis**

22 The crystal structure analyses of hen egg-white lysozymes containing traces of  
23 hydrogen/deuterium exchange during denaturing/refolding processes in solutions were  
24 performed using a joint X-ray and neutron refinement method. Differences in  
25 hydrogen/deuterium exchange were observed depending on the denaturing methods,  
26 acidic condition, basic condition, or thermal condition. This study describes the use of  
27 occupancy values determined by a crystallographic method for the analysis of protein  
28 denaturation.

## 1 **Abstract**

2 The hydrogen/deuterium (H/D) exchange of main chain amide hydrogens in the  
3 protein that denatured and refolded in deuterated solvent is considered to contain the  
4 traces of hydrogen bond cleavages or the exposure to solvent of the buried part of the  
5 protein during the denaturing/ and refolding (denaturing/refolding) processes. Here, we  
6 report the H/D exchange behaviors in hen egg-white lysozymes denatured under acidic  
7 conditions, basic conditions, and thermal conditions, and then refolded in deuterated  
8 solvents, using crystallographic methods. The results indicate that the space containing  
9 the Trp28 side chain was hardly exposed to the solvent in acidic conditions, but  
10 exposed under basic or heated conditions. Moreover, the  $\beta$ -bridges between Tyr53 and  
11 Ile58 in strands  $\beta$ 2 and  $\beta$ 3, which are in a highly conserved region, show some tolerance  
12 to changes in pD. The results indicate that crystallographic method is one of the  
13 powerful tools to analyze the denaturing/refolding processes of proteins.

## 14 15 **1. Introduction**

16 The elucidation of hydrogen/deuterium (H/D) exchange behavior is one of the  
17 methods to know fluctuations in the protein molecule [1]. Theoretically, dissociated  
18 hydrogen atoms, such as  $-\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-\text{SH}$ ,  $-\text{OH}$ ,  $-\text{COOH}$ , and imide are exchangeable,  
19 whereas non-dissociated ones, such as  $-\text{CH}-$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2-$ , and  $-\text{CH}_3$ , are not. In general,  
20 dissociated hydrogen atoms buried in the protein core are not exchanged, whereas those  
21 exposed to the deuterated solvent are exchanged. Many H/D exchange studies of hen  
22 egg-white lysozyme (HWL) have been performed for the structural characterization,  
23 intermolecular interactions, or kinetics of denatured states [2-6]. For example, neutron  
24 diffraction methods had been applied to HWL crystals soaked in the deuterated ethanol  
25 solutions, in the deuterated dimethyl sulfoxide solutions, and in the deuterated  
26 tetramethylammonium chloride solutions, to know the binding mode of the small  
27 molecules, several decades ago [7-9].

28 Previously, we have reported an H/D substitution technique to increase H/D  
29 exchange via denaturing and refolding (denaturing/refolding) processes in deuterium  
30 solutions using HWL as a model protein [10]. HWL is an  $\alpha/\beta$  protein consisting of an  
31  $\alpha$ -domain with a hydrophobic core and a  $\beta$ -strand domain [11]. When protein  
32 denaturation was achieved using acid, base, heat, and a combination of these methods,  
33 an increase in mass from the control protein that was prepared by dissolving HWL in

1 deuterium oxide (D<sub>2</sub>O) was observed for each protein [10]. The increased H/D  
2 exchange positions in each denatured/refolded protein were considered to reflect the  
3 denatured positions in each process. As the increase in the mass of these denatured and  
4 refolded (denatured/refolded) proteins was not the same, the processes of denaturing  
5 these proteins were considered to be different.

6 To obtain information on the denaturing process that would be specific to each  
7 denaturing method, we have started the neutron diffraction studies of the control and  
8 denatured/refolded proteins. Neutron crystallography is a useful analysis method that  
9 not only determines the precise positions of hydrogen atoms, but also elucidates H/D  
10 exchange behaviors. Although the information about denaturing or folding processes  
11 are available by NMR studies [12], hydrogen-exchanged pulse-labelling mass-  
12 spectrometry method [13, 14], X-ray and neutron reflectometry [15], and so on,  
13 crystallographic methods are preferred for high molecular weight proteins. According  
14 to a previous report [2], only the backbone amide hydrogen atoms (hereinafter,  
15 abbreviated as main chain amide H or D) and the side chain indole NH hydrogen atoms  
16 of six Trps were considered for the examination of H/D exchange. We have reported  
17 the results of neutron diffraction studies for the control protein about the D occupancy  
18 [16], in which the H/D exchange effects (occupancies) of these atoms were categorized  
19 based on the previous reports [ 17-19]; deuterium atoms with occupancies refined to  
20 more than 0.7 were considered to be fully exchanged, whereas those refined to less than  
21 0.15 were considered to be unexchanged. In addition to the previous baseline values of  
22 occupancies, in this report, we categorized Ds with occupancy values of 0.95-1.00 as  
23 “fully exchanged with the highest value”, that of 0.6-0.69 as ”quasi-exchanged”, that of  
24 0.16-0.25 as “quasi-unexchanged”, and the other hydrogen atoms with their occupancies  
25 of 0.26-0.59 as “moderately exchanged”, to understand the results of H/D exchange  
26 ratio values more easily (Figures 1 and 2). According to our categorization, the main  
27 chain amide Ds of Ala11, Asn19, Glu35, Thr47, Asp48, Asn59, Gly67, Asn74, Leu84,  
28 Asp101, Met105, Val109, Thr118, Gln121, and Leu129 were assigned as quasi-  
29 exchanged, those of Phe34, Asn39, Gln57, and Val99 were as quasi-unexchanged, and  
30 those of Leu8, Ala9, Asp18, Arg21, Ser24, Asn27, Val29, Thr51, Asn65, Arg68, Thr69,  
31 Ser86, Ala90, Lys97, Gly102, Gly104, Val120, and Arg125 were as moderately  
32 exchanged in the control structure (Figure 1a).

1 We compared the H/D exchange behaviors of the main chain amide Hs and the side  
2 chain indole NH hydrogen atoms of six Trps, between the control crystal structure and  
3 each denatured/refolded protein. The higher occupancy of deuterium atom than  
4 corresponding control atom indicates that the local disruption of hydrogen bonds or  
5 loosening of the structure have occurred. Therefore, H/D exchange behaviors contain  
6 the information about the denatured positions in each denaturing/refolding process.

## 7 8 **2. Materials and methods**

9 The model protein, HWL, was purchased and used (Sigma L6876-1G). As a  
10 standard protein solution of HWL, a 100% D<sub>2</sub>O (Euriso-top, 99.9%) -solvated HWL  
11 solution at a concentration of 10 mg/mL was prepared and stored at 4°C for at least 2  
12 days. The protein was denatured by changing of the pD or by heating. To induce  
13 denaturation by a change in the pD, acidic conditions were prepared by the addition of  
14 deuterium chloride (DCl, 35 wt.% in D<sub>2</sub>O, 99 atom % D, Sigma Aldrich), and basic  
15 conditions were prepared by the addition of sodium deuterioxide (NaOD, 30 wt.% in  
16 D<sub>2</sub>O, 99 atom % D, Sigma Aldrich). Denatured proteins in both conditions were  
17 refolded by adjusting the pH<sub>(read)</sub> of each solution to around 7 by the addition of NaOD  
18 or DCl, respectively, after 1 day. To induce denaturation by heat, the protein solution  
19 was heated to 80°C for 30 min. The details of the denaturing and refolding procedures  
20 are provided in the supplementary materials. Finally, all protein solutions were  
21 concentrated to more than approximately 100 mg/mL and stored at 4°C until use.

22 Crystallization, and neutron and X-ray data collections for denatured/refolded  
23 proteins were performed in accordance with those of control protein [16]. The  
24 solutions of 3% - 4% sodium chloride in deuterated 0.1 M sodium acetate (pH<sub>(read)</sub> 4.6)  
25 were prepared and used for crystallization solutions. The sitting-drop vapor diffusion  
26 method, in which filtered drop solutions (4μl) containing protein and the same volume  
27 of crystallization solutions were equilibrated against the crystallization solutions, was  
28 employed. Only one or two crystals were appeared in each batch at 20°C after more  
29 than 1-2 weeks with high probability. The crystals for neutron diffraction studies were  
30 grown by the repeated addition of protein solutions that contained deuterated precipitant  
31 reagents to each batch in which only one crystal was appeared. The crystals used for  
32 neutron diffraction studies are shown in Figure S1. The crystals for X-ray diffraction  
33 studies were obtained under the same conditions as for neutron data collection.

1 Neutron data were collected at room temperature using a Laue diffractometer CG-  
2 4D's IMAGINE installed at the High Flux Isotope Reactor at Oak Ridge National  
3 Laboratory [20, 21]. The X-ray data were collected at room temperature using CuK $\alpha$   
4 radiation from a rotating anode X-ray source with a RAXIS VII imaging plate detector  
5 (Rigaku).

6 The X-ray structures were solved by the molecular replacement method using the  
7 coordinates of H/D exchanged lysozyme (wwPDB Code: 6K8G.pdb) [16]. The X/N  
8 joint refinement was carried out using X-ray and neutron data with the PHENIX  
9 software package [22]. The quality of the model was checked using the MolProbity  
10 server at <http://molprobity.biochem.duke.edu/> [23]. Pictures were prepared using the  
11 program PyMOL Molecular Graphic System program (Version 1.2r3pre, Schrodinger,  
12 LLC). The details of experiments, and data collection and the refinement statistics are  
13 summarized in the supplementary materials and Table 1.

### 14 15 **3. Results**

#### 16 **3.1. Overall structure of HWL**

17 The X-ray crystal structure analyses of deuterated HWLs denatured under different  
18 conditions were performed 2Å resolution. Three denaturing conditions were used:  
19 acidic conditions (below pH<sub>(read)</sub> 2.0), produced by the addition of DCl and refolded by  
20 the addition of NaOD solutions (abbreviated as DLysCl); basic conditions (over pH<sub>(read)</sub>  
21 11.0), produced by the addition of NaOD and refolded by the addition of DCl solutions  
22 (abbreviated as DLysOD); and heat conditions (80 °C for 30 min.), and refolded by  
23 cooling to R.T. (abbreviated as DLyshc). The structures of the refolded proteins were  
24 similar to that of control (PDB code: 6K8G) [16]. The neutron crystal structure  
25 analyses were carried out at 2Å resolution (DLysCl and DLyshc) and 2.3Å resolution  
26 (DLysOD). The differences in the resolution of neutron diffraction data would arise  
27 from the crystal size; the volume of the DLysOD crystal was smaller than the others.  
28 The crystals and neutron density map for each denatured/refolded protein are shown in  
29 Figures S1 and S2.

30 The occupancy values for main chain amide Ds for the control and  
31 denatured/refolded proteins are plotted against the amino acid residue number (Figures  
32 1a, b, d, and f). The difference in the occupancy values for main chain amide Ds  
33 between the control [16] and each sample was also plotted (Figures 1c, e, and g). The

1 result of the increased mass values calculated from the occupancy values of all atoms of  
2 DLysCl, DLysOD, and DLysHc shows that DLysOD is the highest among these  
3 samples. This is consistent with our previous results [10]. The overall structure for each  
4 sample is drawn in Figure S3. The deuterium atoms with an occupancy value extremely  
5 lower than the corresponding control D are excluded further in this report, as they are  
6 unlikely in the experimental system. The main chain amide Ds and Ds at the side  
7 chains of Trps excluded due to the unlikely occupancy values are colored in gray in  
8 each figure, unless otherwise stated.

### 10 **3.2. Lysozyme denatured in acidic condition and refolded in D<sub>2</sub>O (DLysCl)**

11 The occupancy values for main chain amide Ds of the control [16] and DLysCl, and  
12 the differences between them, are shown in Figures 1(a) - (c). The regions in which an  
13 obvious increase of occupancy values for several main chain amide Ds were observed  
14 are the first half of helix1 (Leu8-Lys13), both ends of helix 3 (Asn27 and Phe34), and  
15 the buried part of helix 5 (Leu83). (Figures 2a, and S3) In addition, the increases  
16 of the deuterium occupancies in the loop region, at Phe38 and Asn39, which follow part  
17 of the helix 3 and form hydrogen bonds with Ser36, respectively, were observed. The  
18 side chains of Trp62, Trp63, Trp108, and Trp111 were fully exchanged, that of Trp123  
19 was quasi-exchanged, and that of Trp28 was quasi-unexchanged.

20 Conversely, the residues whose main chain amide Hs were unexchanged or quasi-  
21 unexchanged to Ds are Met12 in helix1, Trp28 - Lys33 in helix 3, Tyr53, Gln57 and  
22 Ile58 in  $\beta$ -sheet, and Val92, Ala95, and Lys96 in helix 6. (Figures 2a, and S3) Many of  
23 these residues are related to form the hydrophobic core of  $\alpha$ -domain; e.g., the residues  
24 Met12, Trp28, and Val92 are the members of the hydrophobic core cluster, and Gln57,  
25 Ile58, and Lys96 are close to hydrophobic core members. These results indicate that the  
26 hydrophobic core of the  $\alpha$ -domain are relatively unaffected by the acidic conditions.  
27 This is consistent with the fact that the side chain D of Trp28, which is buried in the  $\alpha$ -  
28 domain, has a low occupancy value in DLysCl. (Figure 2a)

### 30 **3.3. Lysozyme denatured in basic condition and refolded in D<sub>2</sub>O (DLysOD)**

31 The occupancy values for the main chain amide Ds of DLysOD, and the differences  
32 between the control and DLysOD, are shown in Figures 1(d) and 1(e). From the  
33 comparison of the deuterium occupancy values of main chain amides with those of

1 control, the atoms with a clear increase from the control are contained in helices 1, 3, 4,  
2 5, and 6, and  $\beta$ -strands 2 and 3. (Figures 1d, e, and S3) During the denaturing/refolding  
3 process, almost all of the hydrogen bonds which are contained in helices 1, 4, and 5  
4 appear to be disrupted.

5 On the contrary, a few main chain amide Hs in DLysOD are unexchanged; the main  
6 chain amide H of Tyr53 in strand 2 was unexchanged, and those of Arg21 and Thr47 in  
7 the loop region, Trp28 - Cys30 in helix 3, Ile58 in strand 3, and Ala95 in helix 6 were  
8 not exchanged to some extent. Among these, two residues, Tyr53 and Ile58 are  $\beta$ -  
9 bridge partners in the  $\beta$ -sheet. These H/D exchange observations suggest that hydrogen  
10 bonds between Tyr53 and Ile58 were hardly broken, and that those in helix 3 were not  
11 completely disrupted during the denaturing process in the basic conditions (Figure 2b).  
12 Moreover, the side chains of Trps28, Trp108, Trp111, and Trp123 are in the fully  
13 exchanged category. The result that the side chain NH atom of Trp28, which was not  
14 exchanged in control protein [16], is fully exchanged to D means that the core of the  $\alpha$ -  
15 domain was exposed to the outer solution during the denaturing/refolding processes  
16 (Figure 2a).

### 17 18 **3.4. Lysozyme denatured at 80°C and refolded by cooling (DLyshc)**

19 The occupancies of main chain amide Ds of DLyshc, and the differences of H/D  
20 exchange behaviors from those of control are shown in Figure 1(f) and 1(g). In  
21 DLyshc, most of the main chain amide Ds are categorized in fully- and quasi-  
22 exchanged. The increasement of occupancy values of main chain amide Ds compared  
23 with those of the control were observed in helices 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6, and  $\beta$ -strands 2 and  
24 3. The main chain amide Hs in these helices are almost all categorized as fully  
25 exchanged, even those that face inside of the  $\alpha$ -domain core. These results are  
26 consistent with the observation of the Trp28 side chain, which was fully exchanged in  
27 DLyshc. As for the side chains of other Trps, the side chains of Trp108, Trp111, and  
28 Trp123 were fully exchanged, and that of Trp62 and Trp63 were moderately exchanged.

## 29 30 **4. Discussion**

31 In a previous report [6], H/D exchange kinetics in the acidic conditions were studied  
32 for the HWL sample in which the Cys6-Cys127 disulfide bond was selectively cleaved.  
33 In that, it was suggested that H/D exchanges in the main chain amide Hs of Ala10,

1 Met12, and Lys13, which are in the latter half of helix 1, were too fast to be accurately  
2 measured. In contrast, in DLysCl in our study, main chain amide H of Met12 was  
3 quasi-unexchanged, and that of Ala10 was moderately exchanged. These results  
4 suggest that disulfide bonds would contribute to the stability of hydrogen bonds in  
5 helices. Considering this, other disulfide bonds would also affect the H/D exchange  
6 behaviors; e.g., in the helices 3 and 6, which are longer than helix 1, the hydrogen-  
7 remained parts are located at the central part of the helices, which contain disulfide  
8 bonds (Cys30-Cys115 and Cys94-Cys76). However, the relative positions of the  
9 hydrogen-remained residues to the disulfide bond in helices 3, and 6 are not agree with  
10 that of helix 1; the hydrogens in close proximity the cysteine residues remained in  
11 helices 3 and 6, and the hydrogen-bonded partner of cysteine or H in residues further  
12 away in the helical structure remained in helix 1. Therefore, it could not be determined  
13 whether the stability of hydrogen bonds in the central region in helices 3 and 6 is due to  
14 the disulfide bonds, the properties of the long helix, or both.

15 We focused on the H/D exchange behavior of the side chain of Trp28, which is  
16 located in the buried space of  $\alpha$ -domain and surrounded with helices 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7,  
17 and the loop between  $\beta$  strands 2 and 3. Our results indicate that the Trp28 side chain  
18 was not exposed to the solvent in control and acidic conditions, however, it was  
19 exposed to the solvent in basic and heat conditions. These results are consistent with  
20 reports that HWL is not induced to the molten globule (MG) state at very low pH [24]  
21 but at alkali conditions [25], and that unfolding of nearly 50% of the helical structure  
22 occurs at a temperature higher than 70 °C [26]. The control, DLysCl, and DLysOD  
23 have common H/D exchange tendencies in helices of 1, 3, and 6, in which the residues  
24 in the central part are unexchanged, to some extent (Figure 2a). Therefore, the  
25 differences in H/D exchange behaviors of Trp28 between the control and DLysCL, and  
26 DLysOD would come from the degree of disruption of the hydrogen bonds included in  
27 the elements of  $\alpha$ -domain core. Besides in DLyshc, the main chain amides with  
28 especially high occupancy with the highest value (0.95-1) were observed at the residues  
29 that faced the inside of the  $\alpha$ -domain core and were located in the central part of the  
30 helices 3 and 6, and helix 1 (Figure 2a). This means that the process of thermal  
31 denaturation in HWL may be different from that caused by a change in pD.

32 In the lysozyme superfamily and subfamilies (GH19, GH22, G23, GH24, and  
33 GH46), the  $\beta$ -hairpin structure, which points toward the substrate binding cleft and



1 contains a catalytic residue, is one of two common structural elements defined in the  
2 signature motif, and show the highest amino acid conservation in sequences alignment  
3 [27]. In HWL,  $\beta$ -strands 2 and 3 forms the  $\beta$ -hairpin structure corresponding to this  
4 signature motif. It is notable that the hydrogen bonds between Tyr53 in  $\beta$ -strand 2 and  
5 Ile58 in  $\beta$ -strand 3 showed tolerance to H/D exchange in denaturation caused changes in  
6 pD. In addition, the residues Tyr53 and Ile58 are among the residues with main chain  
7 amide exchange rates significantly slower than predicted in acid-denatured CM<sup>6-127</sup>  
8 lysozyme [6]. These results indicate that there may be a relationship between the  
9 stability of hydrogen bonds and the functionally conserved structures and amino acids.

10 There are many unknowns in the field of H/D exchange of protein, for examples, the  
11 relationship between H/D exchange and the distance from surface [28]. However, it is  
12 possible to obtain information about denaturing events by comparing the H/D exchange  
13 observations between the control and denatured/refolded protein, and some techniques,  
14 for example, H/D exchange mass spectrometry method [29] or NMR method [30], have  
15 been used. In addition to these methods, we reported here that it is also possible to  
16 know the trace aspects of the denaturing/refolding processes, such as hydrogen bond  
17 disruption, by a crystallographic method. Despite crystallographic methods are not  
18 appropriate for some proteins which are difficult to crystallize, or such as intrinsically  
19 disordered proteins which lack stable tertiary structure, crystallography is one of a  
20 powerful tools to obtain information about structure with no size limitation,  
21 theoretically. To identify some rules related to breaking hydrogen bonds during  
22 denaturing/refolding processes, more information is required about H/D exchange  
23 observations for many different types of protein molecules, especially those with a high  
24 molecular weight, with sufficiently high resolution data to refine the occupancy values  
25 of the exchangeable deuterium atoms. This is one of the useful techniques to know the  
26 intrinsic properties of the protein structures and to examine molecular evolution.

### 27 28 **Accession number**

29 The structure factors and coordinates have been deposited in the Worldwide Protein  
30 Data Bank under accession numbers 7FG8, 7FGU, and 7FGV for DLysCl, DLysOD,  
31 and DLyshc, respectively.

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### 18 **Conflict of interest**

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4

## 5 **Figure legends**

6 Figure 1.

7 The H/D exchange behavior of main chain amide hydrogen atoms of control and  
8 denatured/refolded proteins. The main chain amide deuterium occupancies were plotted  
9 versus residue number. Colors on the graphs indicate the categories of deuterium  
10 occupancy; the occupancy values above 0.95: magenta; 0.7-0.94: orange, 0.6-0.69:  
11 yellow; 0.26-0.59: white; 0.16-0.25 : green; and below 0.15: cyan. The difference  
12 between the control and each denatured/refolded protein was also plotted. The  
13 secondary structures are drawn over the graph [31]. (a), (b), (d), and (f): The occupancy  
14 values of main chain amide Ds of the control, DLysCl, DLysOD, and DLyshc  
15 structures. (c), (e), and (g): The difference in the occupancy value of each main chain  
16 amide D between the control and DLysCl (DLysCl-control), DLysOD (DLysOD-  
17 control), and DLyshc (DLyshc-control).

18  
19 Figure 2.

20 The H/D exchange behaviors of the control and denatured/refolded proteins. The  
21 colors are same as Figure 1; the occupancy values above 0.95: magenta; 0.7-0.94 :  
22 orange, 0.6-0.69: yellow; 0.26-0.59: white; 0.16-0.25: green; and below 0.15: cyan.  
23 Helix 2 (Tyr20-Gly22) is depicted by a loop model for easy observation. (a) The  
24 hydrophobic core of the  $\alpha$ -domain in the control and each denatured/refolded protein.  
25 The side chains of Trp28s and disulfide bonds were also drawn. (b) The hydrogen  
26 bonds between Tyr53 in S2 and Ile58 in S3.

27

Hydrogen/deuterium exchange behavior during denaturing/refolding processes  
determined in tetragonal hen egg-white lysozyme crystals

Abstract

This supplementary material provides the following information;

1. Sample preparation and crystallization
2. Neutron and X-ray diffraction experiments
3. Quality of neutron density map
4. Figure legend

## 1. Sample preparation and crystallization

Hen egg-white lysozyme was purchased (HWL, Sigma L6876-1G). As a standard protein solution, a 100% D<sub>2</sub>O (Euriso-top, 99.9%) -solvated HWL solution at a concentration of 10 mg/mL was prepared and stored at 4°C for at least 2 days. For the pD-induced denaturation of the proteins, DCl (35 wt. % in D<sub>2</sub>O, 99 atom % D, Sigma Aldrich) or NaOD (30 wt. % in D<sub>2</sub>O, 99 atom % D, Sigma Aldrich) was added at a 1:1000 volumetric ratio to the HWL solution. The pH<sub>(read)</sub> of the DCl-added HWL solution was less than 2, and that of the NaOD-added HWL solution was over 11. Denatured solutions were stored at 4°C for 1 day. The refolding of pD-induced denatured proteins was done by returning the pH<sub>(read)</sub> to around 7 using NaOD or DCl. The pH<sub>(read)</sub> value of the protein solution was measured using a compact pH meter (HORIBA compact pH meter twin B-212). After denaturing/refolding processes by a change in pD, the refolded protein solutions that contained NaOD and DCl were replaced with D<sub>2</sub>O by repeated ultrafiltration/dilution procedures with viva spin series (Sartorius) and Amicon Ultra series (Merck Millipore), to reduce the concentration of the solutions to less than 1/1000 of the initial value. For thermal denaturation of the protein, heat treatment of HWL at 10mg /mL was performed at 80°C for 30 min. After heat treatment, the protein sample was cooled at R.T. and therefore, incubated at 4°C at least overnight. All protein solutions were concentrated to 100 mg/mL and stored at 4°C until use. Crystallization solutions of 3% - 4% sodium chloride in 0.1 M sodium acetate (pH<sub>(read)</sub> 4.6) prepared with sodium acetate-d<sub>3</sub> (Sigma Aldrich, 99 atom % D), acetic acid-d<sub>4</sub> (Sigma Aldrich, 99.5 atom % D), and 100% D<sub>2</sub>O, were used. The sitting-drop vapor diffusion technique was used for crystallization. The drop solutions, which are the mixtures of protein solution and the same volume of crystallization solutions, were filtered using a 0.1 µm filter (Ultrafree-MC Centrifugal Filter UFC30VV00, Merck Millipore) to suppress excessive nucleation. Droplets (4 µl) of the drop solutions were placed on the Fluorinert liquid (Hampton Research) on the sitting drop well to prevent the crystals from sticking to the surface of the crystallization plate, and equilibrated against crystallization solutions. Only one or two crystals were appeared in each batch at room temperature (20°C) after more than 1-2 weeks with high probability. The crystals were grown by addition of a mixture solutions of stock protein containing crystallization solution. After more than 3 months and after more than 15 times additions of mixture solution, crystals large



enough for the neutron diffraction work were obtained (Figure S1).

## **2. Neutron and X-ray diffraction experiments**

The crystals for neutron diffraction were mounted in quartz capillaries with a trace amount of mother liquor, and the neutron data were collected at room temperature with Laue diffractometer CG-4D's IMAGINE installed at the High Flux Isotope Reactor at Oak Ridge National Laboratory [1-2]. The neutron quasi-Laue single crystal diffraction intensities were collected with an exposure time of 20 h (DLysCl and DLyshc) or 18-20 h (DLysOD) per each frame. The data were processed using LAUEGEN, and the data were normalized and merged using the LSCALE and SCALA programs [3-7]. The X-ray data were collected using the crystals obtained in the same crystallization conditions used for neutron data collection. The crystals were mounted in soda-glass capillaries, and the X-ray data were collected at room temperature using CuK $\alpha$  radiation from a rotating anode X-ray source with an RAXIS VII imaging plate detector (Rigaku). The oscillation range was 1.0° and the exposure time was 1 min. per image. Diffraction data were processed with the HKL2000 package [8]. The X-ray structure was solved by the molecular replacement method using the coordinates of H/D exchanged lysozyme (PDB code: 6K8G.pdb [9]). The coordinates for H/D exchanged HWL were initially refined against X-ray data. After the R-factors converged, the X/N joint refinement was carried out using X-ray and neutron data with PHENIX software package [10]. Deuterium atoms at the N-terminus (Lys1) were added manually. Manual model building during the refinement procedures was carried out using COOT [11].

## **3. Quality of neutron density map**

The 2Fo-Fc nuclear density maps clearly showed that each hydrogen atom bound to N $\epsilon$ 1 of Trp28 in DLysOD and DLyshc, was exchanged to deuterium. The occupancies of these deuterium atoms were 1.00 and 0.98, respectively. However, the occupancy of deuterium atom bond to N $\epsilon$ 1 of Trp28 in DLysCl was very low, with the calculated value of 0.19. The neutron density maps of these residues are shown in Figure S2. Pictures for structures were prepared using the program PyMOL Molecular Graphic System program (Version 1.2r3pre, Schrodinger, LLC).

#### 4. Figure legends.

Figure S1.

The crystals of denatured/refolded HWL used for neutron diffraction experiments in this study. (a) DLysCl, (b) DLysOD, and (c) DLyshc.

Figure S2.

X-ray and neutron density maps calculated using the each model protein without D/H that binds to Trp28Nε1. The 2Fo-Fc X-ray density map (blue, 1.2  $\sigma$ ), the 2Fo-Fc neutron-scattering length density map (green, 1.2  $\sigma$ ), and the Fo-Fc neutron-scattering length density map (red, 3.0  $\sigma$ ) are drawn. The colors of protein residues are same as Figures 1 and 2.

Figure S3.

The overall structures of control, DLysCl, DLysOD, and DLyshc. The colors on main chain ribbon models are same as Figures 1 and 2, and two proline residues (Pro70 and Pro79) are colored in dark gray. The side chain of the six Trps and the disulfide bonds are drawn as stick models to show their location.

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Table I. data statistics and refinement parameters

Molecule	DLysCl		DLysOD		DLyshc	
PDB code	7FG8		7FGU		7FGV	
Data collection	Xray	Neutron	Xray	Neutron	Xray	Neutron
Wavelength (Å)	1.54	2.8-4.5	1.54	2.8-4.5	1.54	2.8-4.5
No. frames	100	15	93	13	100	9
Resolution (Å)	2.0	1.998	2.0	2.3	2.0	2.0
(Outer shell)	(2.07-2.00)	(2.11-2.00)	(2.07-2.00)	(2.42-2.29)	(2.07-2.00)	(2.11-2.00)
Measurements	124,136	64,209	115,426	33,224	115,902	38,648
Unique reflections	8,580	7,546	8,548	4,857	8,521	7,100
$R_{\text{merge}}^a$	0.027 (0.080)	0.166 (0.268)	0.032 (0.098)	0.156 (0.285)	0.055 (0.139)	0.169 (0.268)
Redundancy	14.5 (10.2)	8.5 (7.0)	13.5 (10.0)	6.8 (6.3)	13.6 (9.2)	5.4 (4.4)
Completeness (%)	99.6 (96.4)	91.0 (84.6)	99.2 (92.2)	87.7 (76.0)	98.7 (91.8)	86.4 (78.9)
I/s (I)	67.6 (26.5)	6.5 (4.1)	64.0 (23.6)	6.0 (4.0)	42.1 (11.9)	5.0 (3.2)
Refinement						
Space group	$P4_32_12$		$P4_32_12$		$P4_32_12$	
Cell dimensions (Å)						
a	79.2		79.3		79.2	
c	37.9		37.9		37.9	
$R_{\text{work}}/R_{\text{free}}^{b,c}$ (%)	0.140/0.183	0.233/0.266	0.132/0.171	0.220/0.266	0.141/0.182	0.224/0.250
No. of non-H/D atoms						
Protein	997		997		997	
Others (solvent, Na, Cl)	88		86		88	
No. of deuterium atoms						
Protein	261		260		262	
Solvent	130		98		128	
Average B factors (Å <sup>2</sup> )						
Non-H/D atoms protein/ others	21.5/32.6		22.4/32.9		21.2/32.8	
Deuterium atoms protein/ others	32.2/38.0		32.6/37.0		31.7/37.9	
Rmsd bond length (Å)	0.006		0.006		0.006	
Rmsd bond angles (deg.)	0.817		0.875		0.835	

$$^a R_{\text{merge}} = \frac{\sum (|I - \langle I \rangle|)}{\sum I}$$

$$^b R = \frac{\sum ||F_{\text{obs}}| - |F_{\text{calc}}||}{\sum |F_{\text{obs}}|}$$

<sup>c</sup> $R_{\text{work}}$  is calculated from a set of reflections in which 5% of the total reflections have been randomly omitted from the refinement and used to calculate  $R_{\text{free}}$ .

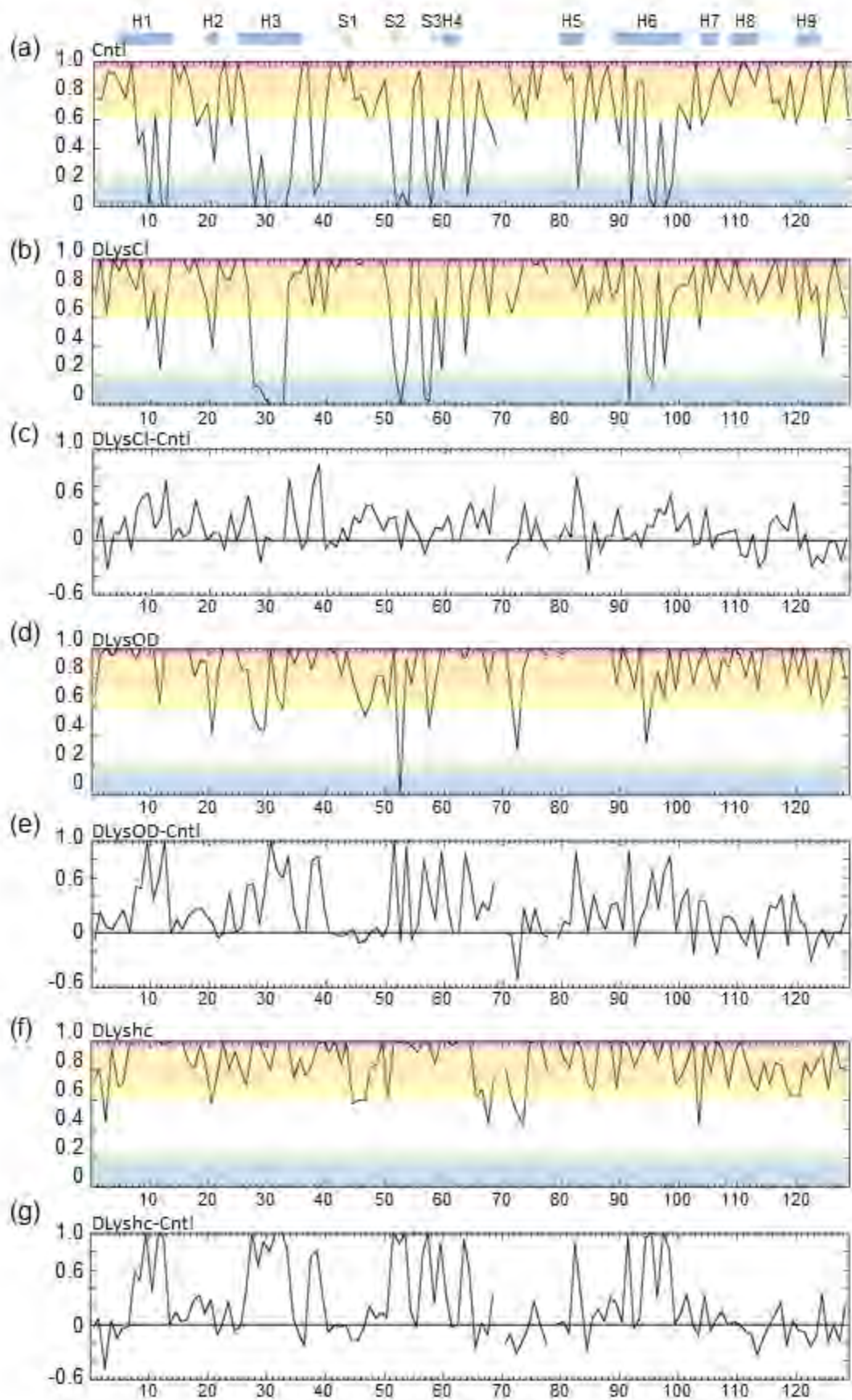


Figure 1.

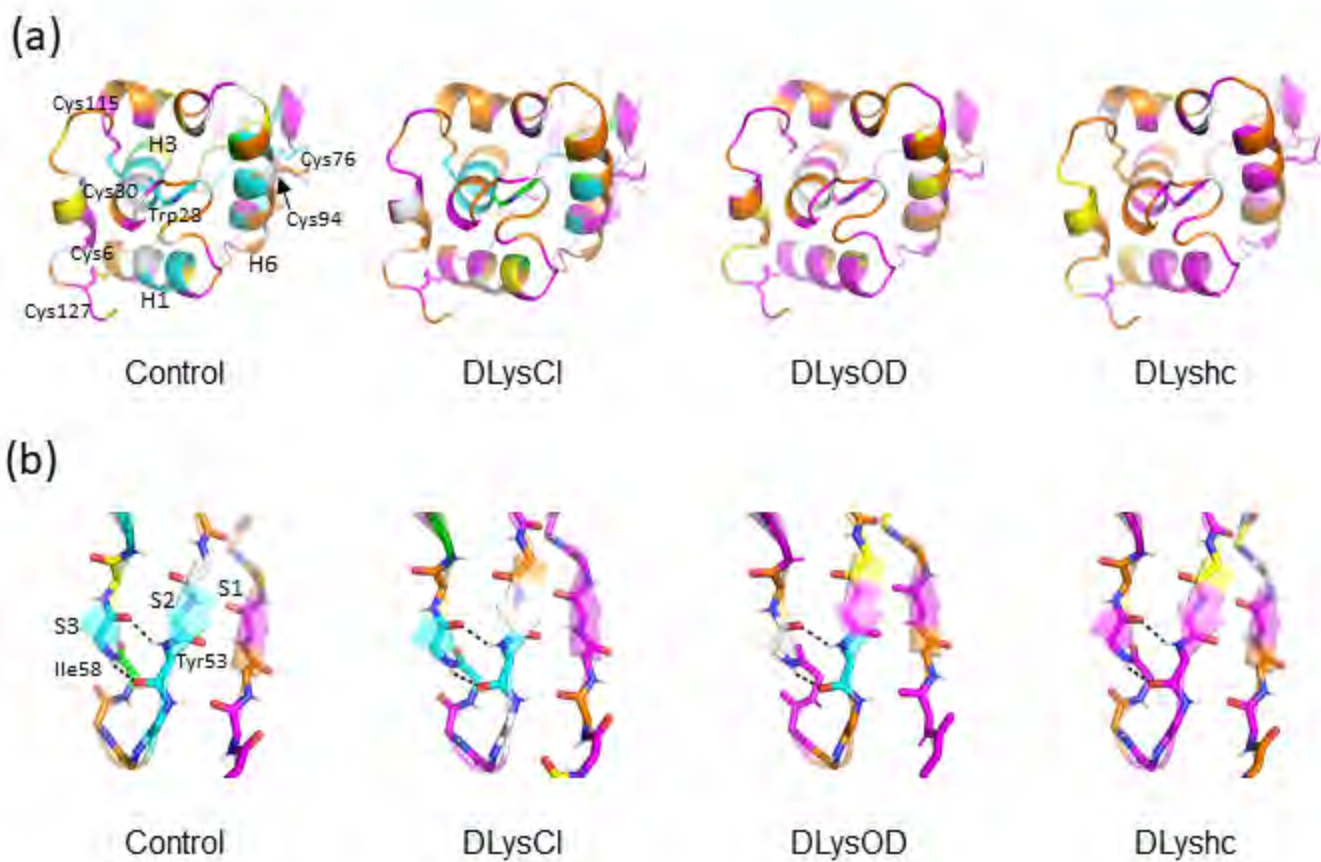
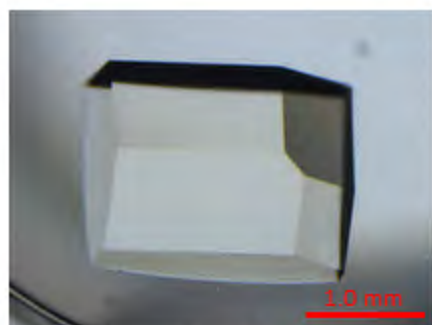
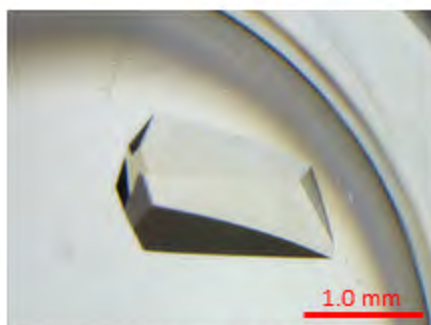


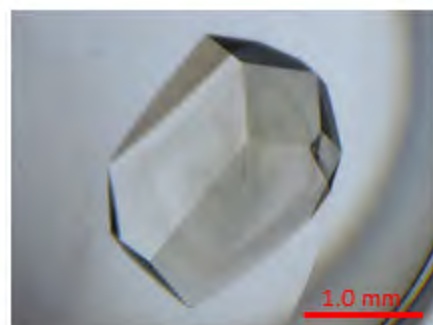
Figure 2



DlysCl

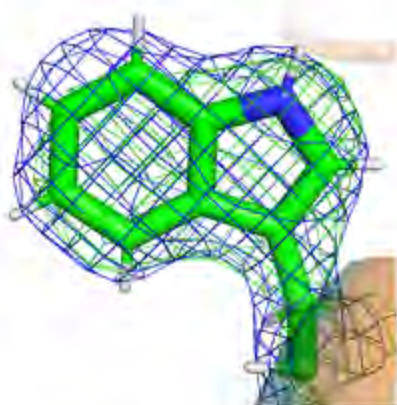


DlysOD

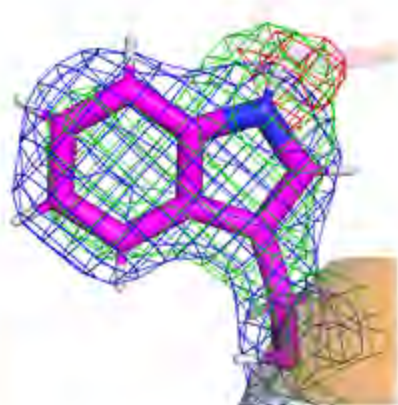


Dlyshc

Figure S1.



DlysCl



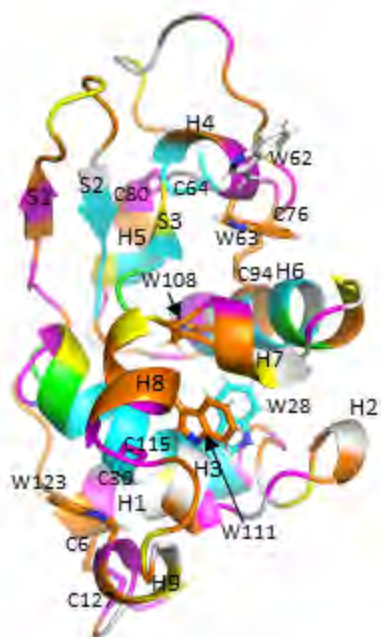
DlysOD



Dlyshc

Figure S2.





Cntl



DlysCl



DLysOD



DLyshc

Figure S3.