

Description

The Chemi-Verse™ ERK1 Kinase Assay Kit is designed to measure ERK1 (extracellular signal-regulated kinase 1) kinase activity for screening and profiling applications using ADP-Glo™ as a detection reagent. The assay kit comes in a convenient 96-well format, with enough purified recombinant ERK1, MBP, ATP, and kinase assay buffer for 100 enzyme reactions.

Background

ERK1 (extracellular signal-regulated kinase 1) is also known as mitogen-activated protein kinase 3 (MAPK3), is a dual serine/threonine and tyrosine kinase. ERK (extracellular signal-regulated kinases), also known as classical MAPK (mitogen-activated protein kinases), are protein kinases involved in crucial intracellular signaling pathways, and regulate processes like mitoses, meiosis, and other functions. In the MAPK/ERK pathway Ras proteins are activated by several external molecules, including cytokines and viruses. These are followed by an activation cascade of c-Raf, MEK (mitogen-activated protein kinase kinase) and finally ERK. ERK1/2 in turn activates transcription factors. Disruption of the MAPK/ERK pathway at any point results in cancer. Inhibitors for Ras, Raf and MEK have been developed and result in rapid tumor reductions. However, resistance to treatment and relapse are quite frequent. This has led the field to focus on the development of ERK inhibitors, although these are difficult to design due to the high similarity to the CDK (cyclin-dependent kinase) pockets. Several ERK1/2 inhibitors are undergoing clinical trials aiming at treating advanced solid tumors, such as melanoma and adenocarcinoma, but further development and studies into ERK2 will open new therapeutic strategies in cancer oncology.

Applications

Study enzyme kinetics and screen small molecule inhibitors for drug discovery and high throughput screening (HTS) applications.

Supplied Materials

Catalog #	Name	Amount	Storage
	ERK1	1.25 µg	-80°C
79334	5x Kinase Buffer 1	1.5 ml	-20°C
79686	500 µM ATP	50 µl	-20°C
78514	MBP (5 mg/ml)	100 µl	-20°C
79696	White 96-well plate	1	Room Temperature

**The concentration of the protein is lot-specific and will be indicated on the tube.*

Materials Required but Not Supplied

Name	Ordering Information
ADP-Glo™ Kinase Assay	Promega #V6930
DTT (Dithiothreitol), 1M, optional	
Microplate reader capable of reading luminescence	
Adjustable micropipettor and sterile tips	
30°C incubator	

Storage Conditions

This assay kit will perform optimally for up to **6 months** from date of receipt when the materials are stored as directed.

Safety

This product is for research purposes only and not for human or therapeutic use. This product should be considered hazardous and is harmful by inhalation, in contact with skin, eyes, clothing, and if swallowed. If contact occurs, wash thoroughly.

Assay Principle

The **ADP-Glo™ Kinase Assay (Promega #V6930)** quantifies the amount of ADP produced by a kinase upon phosphorylation of a substrate. First, addition of the ADP-Glo™ reagent terminates the reaction and quenches the remaining ATP. Second, the addition of the Kinase Detection reagent converts the produced ADP to ATP. The newly generated ATP is quantified by a luciferase reaction. The luminescent signal correlates with the amount of ADP generated by the kinase and is linear to 1 mM ATP.

Contraindications

The final concentration of DMSO in the assay should not exceed 1%.

Assay Protocol

- All samples and controls should be tested in duplicate.
- The assay should include “Blank”, “Positive Control” and “Test Inhibitor” conditions.
- We recommend maintaining the diluted protein on ice during use.
- For detailed information on protein handling please refer to Protein FAQs (bpsbioscience.com).
- We recommend using Pluripotin as internal control. If not running a dose response curve for the control inhibitor, we recommend running the control inhibitor at 0.1X, 1X and 10X the IC₅₀ value shown in the validation data below.

1. Thaw **5x Kinase Assay Buffer 1**, **500 μM ATP**, and **MBP (5 mg/ml)**.

*Optional: If desired, make **5x Kinase Assay Buffer 1** with 10 mM DTT.*

2. Prepare 3 ml of **1x Kinase Assay Buffer 1** by mixing 600 μl of **5x Kinase Assay Buffer 1** with 2,400 μl of distilled water.

*Note: Three (3 ml) of **1x Kinase Assay Buffer 1** is sufficient for 100 reactions.*

3. Prepare a **Master Mix** (12.5 μl/well): N wells x (6 μl of 5x Kinase Assay Buffer 1 + 0.5 μl of 500 μM ATP + 1 μl of MBP (5 mg/ml) + 5 μl of distilled water).
4. Add 12.5 μl of Master Mix to every well.
5. Prepare the **Test Inhibitor** (2.5 μl/well): for a titration prepare serial dilutions at concentrations 10-fold higher than the desired final concentrations. The final volume of the reaction is 25 μl.

5.1 If the Test Inhibitor is water-soluble: Prepare serial dilutions in 1x Kinase Assay Buffer 1, 10-fold more concentrated than the desired final concentrations.

For the positive and negative controls, use 1x Kinase Assay Buffer 1 (Diluent Solution).

OR

5.2 If the Test inhibitor is soluble in DMSO: Prepare the test inhibitor at 100-fold the highest desired concentration in 100% DMSO, then dilute the inhibitor 10-fold in 1x Kinase Assay Buffer 1 to prepare the highest concentration of the 10-fold intermediate dilutions. The concentration of DMSO is now 10%.

Prepare serial dilutions of the Test Inhibitor at 10-fold the desired final concentrations using 10% DMSO in 1x Kinase Assay Buffer 1 to keep the concentration of DMSO constant.

For positive and negative controls, prepare 10% DMSO in 1x Kinase Assay Buffer 1 (vol/vol) so that all wells contain the same amount of DMSO (Diluent Solution).

Note: The final concentration of DMSO should not exceed 1%.

6. Add 2.5 µl of Test Inhibitor to each well labeled "Test Inhibitor".
7. Add 2.5 µl of Diluent Solution to the "Positive Control" and "Blank" wells.
8. Add 10 µl of 1x Kinase Assay Buffer 1 to the "Blank" wells.
9. Thaw **ERK1 Kinase** on ice. Briefly spin the tube to recover its full content.
10. Dilute the protein kinase (10 µl/well) to 1.25 ng/µl with **1x Kinase Assay Buffer 1**.
11. Initiate the reaction by adding 10 µl of diluted kinase to the wells designated "Positive Control" and "Test Inhibitor".

Component	Blank	Positive Control	Test Inhibitor
Master Mix	12.5 µl	12.5 µl	12.5 µl
Test Inhibitor	-	-	2.5 µl
Diluent Solution	2.5 µl	2.5 µl	-
1x Kinase Assay Buffer 1	10 µl	-	-
Diluted ERK1 (1.25 ng/µl)	-	10 µl	10 µl
Total	25 µl	25 µl	25 µl

12. Incubate at 30°C for 45 minutes.
13. Thaw the ADP-Glo™ reagent.
14. At the end of the 45-minute reaction, add 25 µl of ADP-Glo™ reagent to each well.

15. Cover the plate with aluminum foil and incubate at Room Temperature (RT) for 45 minutes.
16. Thaw the Kinase Detection Reagent.
17. Add 50 μ l of Kinase Detection reagent to each well.
18. Cover the plate with aluminum foil and incubate at RT for another 45 minutes.
19. Immediately read in a luminometer or a microplate reader capable of reading luminescence.
20. The “Blank” value is subtracted from all other readings.

Reading Luminescence

Luminescence is the emission of light resulting from a chemical reaction. The detection of luminescence requires no wavelength selection because the method used is emission photometry and not emission spectrophotometry.

To properly read luminescence, make sure the plate reader is set for LUMINESCENCE mode. Typical integration time is 1 second, delay after plate movement is 100 msec. Do not use a filter when measuring light emission. Typical settings for the Synergy 2 BioTek plate reader: use the “hole” position on the filter wheel; Optics position: Top; Read type: endpoint. Sensitivity may be adjusted based on the luminescence of a control assay without enzyme (typically we set this value as 100).

Example Results

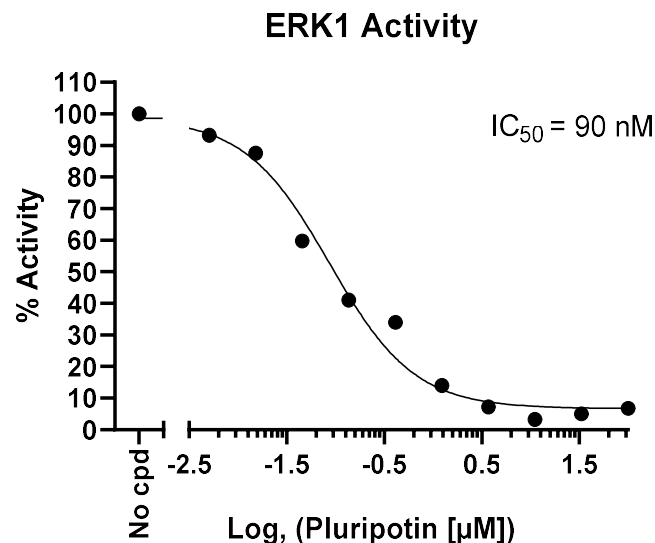


Figure 1: Inhibition of ERK1 kinase activity by Pluripotin.

ERK1 kinase activity was measured in the presence of increasing concentrations of Pluripotin (SelleckChem S27752). The “Blank” value was subtracted from all other values. Results are expressed as the percent of control (kinase activity in the absence of inhibitor, set at 100%).

Data shown is representative. For lot-specific information, please contact BPS Bioscience, Inc. at support@bpsbioscience.com.

Troubleshooting Guide

Visit bpsbioscience.com/assay-kits-faq for detailed troubleshooting instructions. For all further questions, please email support@bpsbioscience.com

References

Busca R. *et al.*, 2016 *Front Cell Dev Biol* 4:53.

Lavoie H., *et al.*, 2020 *Nature Reviews Molecular Cell Biology* 21:607-623

Related Products

<i>Products</i>	<i>Catalog #</i>	<i>Size</i>
Chemi-Verse™ ERK2 Kinase Assay Kit	78899	96 reactions
ERK2, GST-Tag Recombinant	40299	10 µg
SRE eGFP Reporter – HEK293 Cell Line (ERK Pathway)	78327	2 vials
SRE Reporter – HEK293 Recombinant Cell Line (ERK Pathway)	60406	2 vials
ERK3, GST-Tag Recombinant	100366	10 µg
ERK4, GST-Tag Recombinant	100365	10 µg

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