

TCA protein precipitation

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To concentrate proteins for analysis by SDS PAGE:

If a small amount of protein is to be precipitated (less than a few micrograms), add Insulin as a carrier protein (10 micrograms of Sigma insulin, I-5500, per sample works well).

Add an equal volume of 20% TCA (trichloroacetic acid) to protein sample.

Incubate 30 min on ice.

Spin in microfuge at 4 deg. For 15 min.

Carefully remove all supernatant.

Add ~300 ul cold acetone and spin 5 min at 4 degrees.

Remove supernatant and dry pellet.

Resuspend samples in SDS PAGE loading buffer. Load to SDS PAGE after heating at 65 deg for 3 min.