

## Supplementary Information

### Straightforward detection of the secondary ionization of the phosphate group and pK determinations by high-resolution solid-state $^{31}\text{P}$ NMR.

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**TABLE 1.** Experimental  $^{31}\text{P}$  values of the principal tensor elements  $\delta_i$  and corresponding anisotropic parameters for L-o-phosphoserine and AMP-5' at different pH

Compound	pH	$\delta_{\text{iso}}$ (ppm)	$\delta_{11}$ (ppm)	$\delta_{22}$ (ppm)	$\delta_{33}$ (ppm)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Omega$ (ppm)	$\eta$	$\kappa$
L o-phosphoserine	1.96	0.2	65.4	9.5	-74.3	-74.5	139.7	0.75	0.2
	5.61	2.9	73.4	13.0	-77.6	-80.5	151.0	0.75	0.2
		2.9	70.3	-17.3	-44.3	67.4	114.6	0.4	-0.53
	11.96	8.4	84.1	-14.3	-44.5	75.7	128.6	0.4	-0.53
AMP-5'	3.92	1.6	69.3	11.2	-75.8	-77.4	152	0.75	0.19
	6.32	4.5	68.8	15.8	-71.1	-75.6	143	0.70	0.24
		4.5	68.6	-14.7	-40.4	64.1	109	0.4	-0.53
	8.48	7.4	79.9	-12.5	-45.1	72.5	125	0.45	-0.48

\* estimated errors in  $\delta_{11}$ ,  $\delta_{22}$ ,  $\delta_{33}$  are  $\pm 1$  ppm; anisotropy is calculated as  $\delta = (\delta_{33} - \delta_{\text{iso}})$  and asymmetry as  $\eta = (\delta_{22} - \delta_{11})/\delta$  when  $|\delta_{11} - \delta_{\text{iso}}| \leq |\delta_{33} - \delta_{\text{iso}}|$  or as  $\delta = (\delta_{11} - \delta_{\text{iso}})$  and  $\eta = (\delta_{22} - \delta_{33})/\delta$  when  $|\delta_{11} - \delta_{\text{iso}}| \geq |\delta_{33} - \delta_{\text{iso}}|$ . Span is expressed as  $\Omega = \delta_{11} - \delta_{33}$ , skew as  $\kappa = 3(\delta_{22} - \delta_{\text{iso}})/\Omega$