Ultra high resolution structure and preliminary neutron diffraction results on Aldose Reductase

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The Polyol pathway

Cellular glucose is phosphorilated into glucose 6-phosphate by Hexoquinase under normoglycemia conditions. Only a minor part of glucose goes into an alternative route named polyol-pathway (grey ellipsoid in the figure). Aldose is reduced to sorbitol by

Aldose Reductase and sorbitol converted to fructose by Sorbitol dehydrogenase



LINKED TO DIABETIC COMPLICATIONS



The enzymatic reaction involves a hydride donation from the NADPH coenzyme and a proton donation from the enzyme

3D structure



The structure originally solved from the pig enzyme (1989) showed a TIM barrel structure, with the coenzyme sitting on top of the barrel

'Novel NADPH binding domain revealed by the crystal structure of Aldose Reductase'. J.M. Rondeau,

The catalytic site

The COO- head interacts in the catalytic site, which has a dense network of H-bonds around the NADP+

The proton donor can

be either His 110 or Tyr 48

Note that the proximity of NADP⁺ and Lys 77



ID 19 APS frame

λ=0.65785 A

0.62 A diffraction is so far the highest for a 36 kDa enzyme

R-Factor: 8.4%

A. Joachimiak N. Sanishvili SBC

Helium-cooled 15K R-factor: 7.2% (T.Petrova)



X-Ray diffraction of h-AR-IDD594 resolution 0.66 Å (100K) (M.W. = 36kD). in the protein only 54 % of all hydrogen atoms are seen, in the catalytic site 77 %, *but not always where you expect !*.



H-bonds of COO- head seen at 0.66 A resolution



Why Neutron diffraction of fully deuterated proteins ?

- H atoms are of great interest but they remain difficult to « see » by X Ray diffraction because of their weak diffracting power
- Ordered D atoms are localized unambiguously in the neutron diffraction maps at positive peak heights similar to those of C, N or O atoms.
- D-atoms have a much lower incoherent scattering (background) than H-atoms
- Main problem: Low Flux, needing large crystal size!!!

A short point of history (1984) In **CHEMISTRY**, for organometallic molecules, Andre Mitschler already combined X-Ray and Neutron data





X-Rays, in-house, Strasbourg

Neutrons, ILL, Grenoble

 Rees, Mitschler
 J.A.C.S., 98, 7918 (1976)

 Mitschler, Rees and Lehman.
 J.A.C.S., 100, 3390 (1978)

 Mitschler, Rees, Wiest and Benard. J.A.C.S., 104, 7101 (1982)

Neutron diffraction

•Scattering centres are the nuclei, not electrons

•Each nucleus has a characteristic strong force interaction with a neutron.

- •Less variation between the elements # X-Ray
- •Interaction can be different for isotopes of the same element.

Atom type	Neutron scattering length, <i>barns</i> (10 ⁻¹² cm)		
Η	- 0.374	80.27	
D	0.667	2.05	
С	0.665	0	
Ν	0.936	0.49	
0	0.580	0	
S	0.285		
Fe	0.945		
Ca	0.470		
Mn	-0.373		

Direct observation of H or D

 Enzymatic reactions and structure-function relationships Myoglobin (Shu, 2000), Endothiapepsin (Coates, 2001)

Solvent structure and H bonding Concanavalin A (Habash, 2000 & Blakeley, 2004), Lysozyme (Bon, 1999)

Structural kinetics
 through H / D exchange
 Trypsin (Kossiakoff, 1981),
 Crambin (Teeter, 1984)

Hydrogenated proteins

- Approx. 50% of a protein atoms are H
- About ~25% can be exchanged only
- H = large incoherent scattering cross section
 - = large background on detector
 - = large reduction of S / N ratio in data.
- H = weak **negative** coherent scattering length,

= weak negative peak height in maps

Need to produce fully deuterated proteins!

A-DNA (H) / H_2O A-DNA (p-D) / D_2



- All H atoms are exchanged *in vivo* for **DEUTERIUM**
- Huge reduction of background = diffraction data can be measured !
- No cancellation of density but cooperative enhancement of positive nuclear density

Full deuteration : Culture comparison

	Deuterated culture (ILL protocol *)	Hydrogenated culture
Plasmide	pET28b	pET15b
Strain	E.coli BL21	E.coli BL21
Media	$(NH_4)_2SO_4$ KH_2PO_4 Na_2HPO_4 $(NH_4)_2$ citrate $MgSO_4$ Metal salts : $CaCl_2$ FeCl_3 $ZnSO_4$ $CuSO_4$ $MnSO_4$ CoCl_2 Na EDT + deuterated succinic acid	LB Broth (<i>Invitrogen</i>) (Peptone-Yeast extract-NaCl)
Mode	HCDC - FERMENTOR (1L)	Erlenmeyer (6x1L)
Induction	0.2 mM IPTG	1 mM IPTG
	when DO ₆₀₀ ~3	when DO ₆₀₀ ~0.6
Quantity	60 mg	25 mg

*ILL: I. Hazemann, F. Meilleur, M. T. Dauvergne, M. Haertlein, D. Myles

Neutron Laue diffraction ternary complex h -AR-NADP +- IDD 594 crystals grown by I. Hazemann **Partially deuterated** protein **Fully deuterated** protein



Low resolution : 4.5Å, $V = 0.11 \text{ mm}^3$ Medium resolution : 2.2Å, $V = 0.15 \text{ mm}^3$

0.67 m

1 mm

The Laue Diffractometer, LADI at ILL – Grenoble - France



•	Ra	di	110
•	Кa	u	us

- Length
- Active area
- Angle subtended
- Pixel size

159.19 mm

400 mm

- 800 x 400 mm²
- 144° in T, 52° in v

 $200 \ x \ 200 \ \mu m^2$

Monochromators Laue White beam Quasi-Laue (δλ\λ < 30%)

Ti/Ni multilayer bandpass filters

Collimation Pinholes 0.5 to 4mm

Detector Cylinder covered with image plates

NIP

Gd₂O₃ doped BaF(Br.I):Eu²⁺

Sample Flux at specimen =3 x 10 ⁷ n cm⁻² s⁻¹ (λ =3.5Å, $\delta\lambda$ \ λ = 20%)

Sample environment Displex cryostat under vaccum

going down to approx. 12K

LADI Diffractometer at ILL - Grenoble - France Neutron LAUE wavelength normalization curve



Neutron diffraction spots of fully deuterated crystal

With respect to D_2O/H_2O exchange:

Gain in peak height: 2.5

Gain in Background: 2.0



Neutron Laue data processing from 62 LADI frames at 293K(2.2 A *M. Blakeley* EMBL-Grenoble, *F. Meilleur* ILL

with a **fully deuterated** crystal of **tiny** volume = 0.15mm³ = 1 x 0.67 x 0.23 mm³



Total reflections measured (I/σ(I)>3) : 11885 (73.5 % completeness Exposure time for each « still » frame was 36 hours (covering angle # 7°)

Perspectives

- Growth of bigger crystals (volume >> 0.15 mm³) to improve neutron diffraction resolution (better than 2.2 A), first at RT, then at 15K.
- Solve neutron structures of other inhibitor complexes to confirm mobile protons along « shuttle pathways » « expected » by subatomic resolution X-Ray structures.
- Looking for new specific inhibitors.