

Study of dynamic properties of reconstituted myelin sheath

MISTRAL Myelin structure and dynamics in health and disease: a biophysical approach.

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Myelin









CNP = cyclic nucleotide phosphodiesterase; CNS = central nervous system; MAG = myelin-associated glycol-protein; MBP = myelin basic protein; PLP = proteolipid protein.

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The myelin sheath, lipoprotein complex, protects the neuron's nerve fiber (the axon) by isolating it and it speeds the transimission of nerve impulses.

Myelin becomes inflammed and the membrane layers break down into smaller components: demyelination process. These components becomes well circumscribed plagues.



Results: obstructing of the nerve conduction leading to neurological dysfunction such as MS in CNS and Guillain-Barré disease in PNS.





FIGURE 4-12 Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis of myelin proteins in the presence of sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS). The proteins of human PNS myelin (A), human CNS myelin (B), rat PNS myelin (C) and rat CNS myelin (D) were solubilized with the detergent SDS, electrophoresed and stained with Coomassie brilliant blue. The electrophoretic system separates proteins primarily according to their molecular size with the smallest proteins migrating the farthest toward the bottom of the gel. Abbreviations for the proteins are the same as in the text or



Myelin proteins: primarily for biogenesis and structural stability.Exists in both PNS and CNS.

Structure



- TDXAS



Neutrons vs X-rays

Neutrons, interacting with the nuclei and not with electrons, do not promote radiation damaging ! Neutrons Scattering is not scaling with Z ---> light atoms can be observed ! The Incoherent Neutron Scattering cross section of H atoms is particularly high: optimal probe for biological molecules ! Neutrons allow to choose the 'target' to monitor using selective deuteration ! BUT: Neutrons require BIG samples !

Incoherent Elastic Neutron Scattering



$$\lim_{Q \to 0} S(Q, \omega = 0) = I_0 e^{-\langle \frac{\Delta u^2}{6} \rangle * Q^2} \Leftrightarrow \frac{\langle \Delta u^2 \rangle}{6} = \frac{dS(Q_{\to 0}, \omega = 0)}{dQ^2}$$

Gaussian approximation

Quasi-Elastic Neutron Scattering



The Myelin Basic Protein (MBP)



Insulation of nerve axon --> aid in the conductivity of the nerve impulse.

Myelin proteins : primarily for biogenesis and structural stabilityExists in both PNS and CNS.

Crucial in human demyelination diseases: hypersensitivity of MS subjects to MBP.

Open, Highly extended, Double-chain

MBP highly basic character: electrostatic interaction with negatively charged lipids

MW ~ 18.500 KDa

The MBP protein, when combined with acidic lipids, forms a double leaftlet having remarkable similarities to myelin

The Myelin Basic Protein (MBP)

Highly basic character: electrostatic interaction with negatively charged lipids





Open, Highly extended, Double-chain





MW ~ 18.500 KDa



DMPA L - α - Phosphatidic Acid Dimyristoyl ($C_{31}H_{60}O_8P$)



LIPOSOME PREPARATION

- Lipid powders dissolved in chloroform by vortexing;

-Film deposition by drying;

-Dissolving in D_2O at (50 mg/mL) lipid concentration, heating at T ~ 60 C and vortexing

-Thawing/heating procedure to make the membranes more fragile

-Liposomes extrusion (100 nm pore size)

-Eventually adding protein solution (in D_2O) at a given concentration, vortexing

INFLUENCE OF THE MYELIN PROTEINS ON THE DYNAMICS OF DMPA LIPOSOMES



MW= 614.767, $T_r = 50^{\circ}C$, Anionic



1,2-dimyristoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphate (sodium salt), C₃₁H₆₀O₈PNa



MW= 14.5 KDa, Folded



MW= 18.5 KDa, Unfolded

SAMPLE CHARACTERIZATION



DYNAMIC LIGHT SCATTERING

MEMBRANE DYNAMICS





INFLUENCE OF THE MYELIN PROTEINS ON THE DYNAMICS OF DOPC-DOPS MIXED LIPOSOMES





1,2-dioleoyl-*sn*-glycero-3phosphocholine, C44H84NO8P

M.W.: 786.113 T_r = -20°C Neutral 1,2-dioleoyl-*sn-*glycero-3phospho-L-serine (sodium salt), C42H77NO10PNa

MW= **810.025** T_r = -11°*C* Anionic





MEMBRANE DYNAMICS



PERSPECTIVES





SCIENTIFIC CRG PROGRAMME

CELLULAR RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL SIGNALS AND EXTREME CONDITIONS Molecular dynamics of proteins, molecular machines and membranes in living cells



CELLULAR RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL SIGNALS AND EXTREME CONDITIONS

DYNAMICS OF BIOLOGICAL MEMBRANES AND MODEL SYSTEMS

- Ganglioside aggregates
- · Lipid membranes and lipid-protein interactions
- Purple Membrane



MOLECULAR DYNAMICS OF PROTEINS

- Dynamics of proteins at high pressure
- Dynamics of folding states of small globular model proteins
- Dynamic properties and structural stability of hemoproteins embedded in silica hydrogels
- Effect of bio-protecting glassy matrices on the biomolecules dynamics



DYNAMICAL PROCESSES IN ORGANISED STRUCTURES OF SACCHARIDE SYSTEMS IN AQUEOUS SOLVENT

SCIENTIFIC ILL PROGRAMME

- BIOLOGICAL STUDIES
- POLYMERS
- INCLUSION COMPOUNDS
- MAGNETIC EXCITATIONS
 - PHASE TRANSITIONS
 - AMORPHOUS AND GLASSES



Workshops & Events

Workshops

4th Neutron School of the Italian Society of Neutron Spectroscopy



troscopy by learning its performance and power in research application.

The 4th edition of the school – which took place this year - was







a) In-plane geometry

b) Out-of-plane geometry



Neutron Scattering





1 - Chain defect motions (t ~ 10⁻¹¹ s)
2 - Rotational diffusion about their long molecular axis (t ~ 2*10⁻¹¹ s)
3 - Lateral diffusion in the plane of the bilayers (t ~ 10⁻⁹ s)
4 - Rotational and flip flop motion of the lipid head groups (t ~ 3*10⁻⁹ s)
5 - Vertical vibrational motion of the lipid molecules (t ~ 10⁻⁹ - 10⁻¹⁰ s)
6 - Collective undulations of the bilayer (t ~ s)

Incoherent Elastic Neutron Scattering

IN13: 8 µeV, 1.3-5.5 Å Fast motion Incoherent Quasi-Elastic Neutron Scattering

IN16: 0.8 μeV, 0.2-1.9 Å⁻¹ Slow motion