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Conformational Changes of IDP under Influence of Guanidinium Chloride: Integrative Approach using X-ray/Neutron Scattering and Single Molecule Spectrosopy

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IDPs are identified by the presence of unfolded region due to relatively abundant polar residues content within its amino acid sequence. Together with other residues, IDPs exhibit not only high flexibility but also sensitivity to physico-chemical fluctuation such as pH, temperature, and ions concentration. For this reason, IDPs are involved in cellular processes such as DNA repair scheme and chromatin modification. In this project, we pursue a quantitative description of structure and dynamics of IDPs with different net charges: namely Prothymosin Alpha and Myelin Basic Protein. Here, we employed neutron spinecho spectroscopy (NSE) and small angle X-ray scattering (SAXS) to gain insight on the emergence of internal friction within the peptide and its conformational change as a function of Guanidinium Chloride (GndCl) concentration respectively. The experimental results obtained from SAXS shows contraction and expansion as measured by FRET. Similarly, from NSE data, we are able to extract the internal friction which is in good agreement with FCS results.

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