## MLZ Conference 2021: Neutrons for Life Sciences



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## Development of SEC-SANS for life science applications at ISIS TS2

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In-line size exclusion chromatography (SEC) is now routinely offered by a number of small-angle x-ray scattering (SAXS) instruments at synchrotron light sources, particularly those which focus on protein solution scattering, being pioneered on high flux undulator sources. There has recently been a successful demonstration of in-situ SEC-SANS [1, 2] at a reactor neutron source. Here, we demonstrate the feasibility of a SEC-SANS system on the time of flight SANS2 beamline. The test system consisted of a commercial Agilent HPLC and autosampler, connected to Shodex/Superdex columns, the output of which then flows through an adapted quartz cuvette. The cuvette includes 3-D printed inserts with a channel structure optimised to ensure the optimum flow of liquid within the exposure cell. Here, we will present results from a number of systems, including proteins, liposomes and membrane proteins in copolymer nanodiscs, demonstrating the feasibility and utility of SEC-SANS on a pulsed source for classical bioSANS and more generic biophysical systems of interest. We will discuss our thoughts for optimising the technique on a time of flight SANS instrument, including equipment design, such as the use of multiple binary pumps and valves, flow cell limitations through to data reduction and processing.

[1] Jordan et al, J. Appl. Cryst, 2016, 49, 2015-2020 [2] Tidemand Johansen et al, Acta Cryst D Structural Biology, 2018, D74, 1178-1191

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