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The solution x-ray scattering technique permits studies of biological macromolecules in near physiological conditions, which are not always compatible with high-resolution structural studies. Time-resolved solution scattering studies have been used to examine a number of different conformational changes as a function of time primarily at the tertiary and/or quaternary structure level. There exist a number of macromolecular systems which simply can not be contained within the crystallographic lattice structure. All virus and bacteriophage systems undergo complex assembly and maturation processes. Solution x-ray scattering and their time-resolved studies cover small proteins of several thousands of Da to multimega Da virus/phage particles, allowing structural studies of initial assembly processes as well as the late maturation processes. This talk will highlight the time-resolved study on the scaffolding protein-mediated assembly of P22 bacteriophage capsid and the maturation structural kinetics of HK97 bacteriophage capsid to illustrate how time-resolved solution scattering studies can complement crystallography and cryoelectron microscopy in structural virology. It will be shown that the scaffolding protein monomer-dimer assembly equilibrium controls the entire P22 capsid assembly process. In the case of HK97 maturation, the highly cooperative all-or-nothing structural transitions of 420 capsid proteins prevail in all steps so far been examined.

Keywords: small angle X-ray scattering, viral structure and function, time-resolved x-ray analysis

MS.51.5

Acta Cryst. (2008). A64, C92

Real-time SAXS observation of assembly and disassembly dynamics of cyanobacterial clock proteins

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Circadian clocks are the endogenous timing systems enabling a variety of living organisms to adapt daily alternation of environments. Cyanobacterium *Synechococcus elongatus* PCC 7942 is known to have an oscillator composed of three clock proteins termed KaiA, KaiB, and KaiC. KaiA promotes the autophosphorylation of KaiC, whereas KaiB promotes the autodephosphorylation of KaiC. Three Kai proteins incubated in the presence of ATP are assembled and disassembled into heteromultimeric Kai complexes to effect a rhythmic change of the phosphorylation state of KaiC. To date, the crystal structure of the individual Kai protein has already been determined independently. However, a relationship between the assembly/disassembly dynamics and the KaiC phosphorylation cycle is still poorly understood because of the difficulty in unraveling the underlying mechanisms solely from the static molecular picture of individual clock components. We thus followed the assembly/disassembly dynamics of a ternary mixture containing KaiA, KaiB, and KaiC in real-time by using small-angle x-ray scattering (SAXS) at beamline BL45XU of SPring-8. The scattering from the ternary mixture robustly oscillated with a period of approximately 24 h, indicating a repeated assembly and disassembly of the Kai complexes. Based on the size and shape of the clock complexes,

we will discuss the assembly/disassembly mechanism of the Kai oscillator.

Keywords: small-angle scattering, macromolecular complexes, dynamics thermodynamics of biomacromolecules

MS.52.1

Acta Cryst. (2008). A64, C92

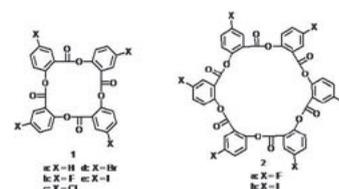
Novel cyclic salicylide derivatives: Guest inclusion and organo-gellation

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Some novel tetra- and hexasalicylide derivatives (1 and 2) were synthesized. The tetrasalicylide derivatives (1b-1e) having a 5-substituted halogen atom on the aromatic ring form organo-gels with several kinds of organic solvents, whereas the parent compound (1a) does not. In contrast, hexasalicylide derivatives (2a-2b) form stable inclusion crystals with several organic guest molecules.



Keywords: inclusion chemistry, host-guest complexes, crystal structures

MS.52.2

Acta Cryst. (2008). A64, C92-93

Porous material behaviour in non-porous crystals: A route to chemical reactions

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In porous crystalline materials an important emphasis is on interactions between the host framework and the guest molecules and upon transport of the guests in and out of the framework pores. Surprisingly, in a small number of examples reported to date, such transport can also occur in non-porous crystals leading to entrapment of small molecules.[1] In this presentation two examples will be discussed in which such transport behaviour in non-porous crystal leads to subsequent chemical reactions within the crystal. These reactions involve changes in hydrogen bonding and changes in coordination bonds. In the first case we explore the reversible uptake/release of gaseous HCl leading to interconversion between square-planar coordination complexes trans-[CuCl₂(3-Xpy)₂] and salts (3-XpyH)₂[CuCl₄] (3-Xpy = 3-halopyridine) which has tetrahedral metal coordination geometry.[2,3] In the second, reversible uptake of