## Protein fibrillation followed by SAXS

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E. coli Biofilm AJC1/Flickr

## Amyloid fibrils

- Disease Related
- Unbranched
- Extracellular
- In vivo
- Green birefringance upon Congo Red binding
- Cross-β pattern (fiber diffraction)
- … and lots of amyloid-like fibrils









### Parkinson's Disease and α-synuclein

#### <u>PD</u>

- The 2nd most common neurodegenerative disorder – 10 mio. world wide
- Symptoms include tremor, motor impairment, cognitive impairment
- Idiopathic (most common, >60 years of age)
- Early-onset/familial (before 50 years of age)

#### Neuropathological characterization

- Degradation of dopaminergic neurons
- Lewy bodies, **amyloid fibrillar** α-synuclein

#### Spillantini *et al*, Nature, 1997

#### $\alpha$ -synuclein

• 140 aa, 14.5 kD, intrinsically disordered









Jimenez et al, 2002, PNAS Human Insulin Tuttle et al, Nature Struc.Mol.Bio., 2016





#### 'Time resolved' SAXS during fibrillation (α-synuclein)



Vestergaard B, et al(2007) PLoS Biol, 5, e134 Giehm L, Svergun DI, Otzen DE, Vestergaard B (2011) PNAS 108, 3246-3251 Langkilde AE, Herranz-Trillo F, Bernadó P, Vestergaard B. (2018) Meth.Mol. Biol. 1779, 209-239



#### 'Time resolved' SAXS during fibrillation (α-synuclein)







#### How many species?



Normalized eigenvectors



#### Isolating the scattering curves - using OLIGOMER



#### Characterization of species (α-synuclein)









#### $\alpha SN E46K$





### Decomposition using COSMiCS

Herranz-Trillo, F.; Groenning, M.; Maarschalkerweerd, A. van; Tauler, R.; Vestergaard, B.; Bernadó, P. Structural Analysis of Multi-Component Amyloid Systems by Chemometric SAXS Data Decomposition. *Structure* **2017**, *25*, 5–15.

Chemometrics-inspired approach based on Multivariate Curve Resolution Alternating Least Squares (MCR-ALS)



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time [h]



# E46K $\alpha$ -synuclein revisited







## Some practical aspects

- Test your system, find optimal conditions
- Know your system
  - complementary methods, e.g. TEM and FD
  - Consider beamline stability, time frames, additional equipment etc

- Check 2D images
- Check buffers, basic parameters
- ...and double check!
- Test different inputs, parameters, number of species
- Decompose using different methods







## Planning your beamtime

- Samples
- Stability
- Preparation (upconc, dilute, sec...)
- Temperature
- Radiation sensitivity
- Mixing? Incubation time?
- Prioritize. Need to have or nice to have
- Go enough people

- Sample volume
- Turnover time
- Lab access for sample prep
- Special equipment
- Injections? Top-up?





## Planning your beamtime

- Keep log book
- Talk to your colleagues
- Evaluate

☺ Have fun and collect great data!



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