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Friday, March 23, Session III

L10

TRANSFORMING BIOMOLECULAR NMR TO STAY AT THE FOREFRONT OF STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY

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The automation of NMR structure determination remains a significant bottleneck towards increasing the throughput and accessibility of NMR as a structural biology tool to study proteins. The chief barrier currently is that obtaining NMR assignments at sufficient levels of completeness to accurately define the structures by conventional methods requires a significant amount of spectrometer time (several weeks), and effort by a trained expert (up to several months). We have recently addressed both bottlenecks by presenting a complete pipeline for NMR structure determination using a minimal set of NMR spectra. Key to our approach was the development of 4D-CHAINS algorithm

that enables fully automated assignments of NMR chemical shifts, at high levels of completeness and with a minimum error rate, from only two complementary spectra. In combination with autoNOE-Rosetta, 4D-CHAINS provides a robust approach leveraging a highly automated process to obtain reliable structures in a matter of days. Besides illustrating the merits of our pipeline for timely NMR structural studies, novel concepts in automation will be discussed aiming to harness the powerful advantages of the next-generation NMR spectrometers with magnetic strengths of 1.2 GHz.

L11

CAPTURING DYNAMICALLY INTERACTING INHIBITOR BY PARAMAGNETIC NMR SPECTROSCOPY

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Transient and fuzzy intermolecular interactions are fundamental to many biological processes. Despite their importance, they are notoriously uneasy to characterize. Paramagnetic NMR provides an opportunity to amplify rather small indices of intermolecular interactions often observed with diamagnetic ligands. Here, we present an intricate case of a partially flexible protein dynamically interacting with a ligand where data obtained by standard

approaches fail to provide detailed structural interpretation. We demonstrate, that a combination of paramagnetic NMR experiments, advanced quantum chemical calculations and molecular dynamics simulations offer a route towards structural characterization of a class of inhibitors based on substituted metalacarboranes with HIV-1 protease.

L12

STRUCTURAL BASIS FOR HIJACKING OF THE HOST ACBD3 PROTEIN BY PICORNAVIRUSES

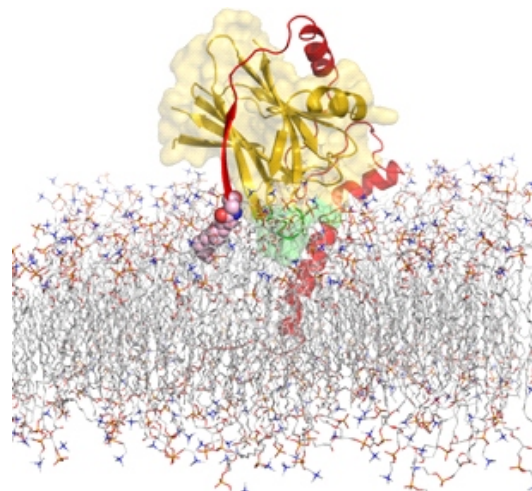
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Picornaviruses are small, positive-sense single-stranded RNA viruses including many important human pathogens as well as infecting a wide range of other mammals such as livestock. Within the host cell, these viruses replicate at specific replication sites called replication organelles. In order to remodel the host membranes and to create the replication organelles, these viruses hijack several host factors including the lipid kinase phosphatidylinositol 4-kinase beta (PI4KB, [1]) and the acyl-CoA-binding domain-containing protein-3 (ACBD3, [2]). Using X-ray crystallography, we solved the structures of the protein complexes formed by the non-structural 3A proteins from several picornavirus species and the appropriate interacting domain of ACBD3. We show that the viral 3A proteins act as molecular harnesses to enslave the ACBD3 protein leading to its stabilization at target membranes, which leads in turn to the recruitment and activation of the PI4KB kinase. Our structural analysis explains how these viral-host protein complexes assemble at the membrane and identifies new potential targets for antiviral therapies.



Molecular dynamics simulation-based model derived from our crystal structure of the ACBD3 GOLD domain (mostly in gold, membrane-binding site in green) in complex with the 3A protein from human aichivirus (mostly in red, myristoylated Gly1 residue according to elements) on the lipid bilayer.

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The work was supported by the Czech Science Foundation (grant number 17-07058Y), Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (RVO: 61388963), and Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic (project InterBioMed - LO1302).

L13

TARGETING THE LEDGF/p75 ASSOCIATED PATHOLOGIES

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Lens Epithelium Derived Growth Factor/p75 (LEDGF/p75, or PSIP1) is a transcriptional co-activator that tethers other proteins to gene bodies. The chromatin tethering function of LEDGF/p75 is hijacked by HIV integrase to ensure viral integration at sites of active transcription. LEDGF/p75 is also important for the development of Mixed Lineage Leukemia (MLL), where it tethers the

MLL1 fusion-complex at aberrant MLL targets to induce malignant transformation. In addition, LEDGF/p75 might be implicated in the Rett and MECP2 duplication syndromes (neurodevelopmental disorders). Here, we present the structural validation of the LEDGF/p75 binding interactions and targeting strategies for the LEDGF/p75 linked pathologies.