Physiologically-relevant crowding effects on a protein-peptide interaction



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From fundamentals to applications

Biophysics of cell signaling



Computation



Yu et al. eLife. (2016)



Cells are crowded and dynamic

Most experiments



Proteins' native environment



~ 300 g/L macromolecules

Yu et al. eLife. (2016)

Protein-protein interactions are essential to life



A. Garrow, Human Interactome, 2006, https://www.flickr.com/photos/andytrop/5234326542/in/album-72157625527595330/

SH3 interactions are important for cell signaling



Adapted from: Lodish, Molecular Cell Biology

Protein and peptide of interest



http://protcalc.sourceforge.net

Predicted bound structure



Kurcinski, M. *et al.* Nuc. Acids Res. (2015) http://biocomp.chem.uw.edu.pl/CABSdock/

¹⁹F labeling of SH3



Peptide binding affects ¹⁹F chemical environment



NMR lineshapes are information-rich



with Chris Waudby

NMR lineshapes are information-rich



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Protein association and free energy diagrams



Reaction coordinate

Protein association and free energy diagrams



SH3-peptide interaction in buffer



Reaction coordinate

Investigating macromolecular crowding effects



http://protcalc.sourceforge.net

Electrostatic crowder-SH3 interactions slightly perturb binding affinity

$$\Delta\Delta G_{D}^{\circ'} = \Delta G_{D,crowder}^{\circ'} - \Delta G_{D,buffer}^{\circ'}$$

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$$\Delta\Delta G_A^{\circ'^{\ddagger}} = \Delta G_{A,\,crowder}^{\circ'^{\ddagger}} - \Delta G_{A,buffer}^{\circ'^{\ddagger}}$$

Only positively charged lysozyme affects the association rate constant

$$\Delta\Delta G_D^{\circ'^{\ddagger}} = \Delta G_{D, \, crowder}^{\circ'^{\ddagger}} - \Delta G_{D, buffer}^{\circ'^{\ddagger}}$$

Only high concentrations of negatively charged BSA affects the dissociation rate constant

Future Crowded Conditions

Investigate concentration and size dependence (if any)

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