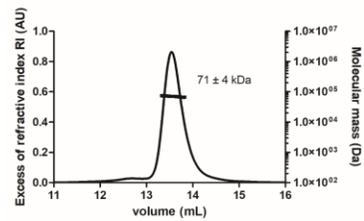


Solution studies : SEC-MALS, Analytical ultracentrifugation, SAXS and mass photometry

caroline.mas@ibs.fr

Size Exclusion Chromatography (SEC) coupled with Multi Angle Laser Light Scattering (MALLS)



What is SEC-MALLS?

Multi-Angle Laser Light Scattering (MALLS), UV Absorbance and Refractive Index (RI) coupled to a size-exclusion chromatography (SEC) system allows the simultaneous determination of the molecular weight of each component of a sample.

MALLS measurements work by calculating the amount of scattered light (LS) by a sample at various angles. The intensity of the light scattered of a solution is directly proportional to

- the concentration of its components (RI or UV)
- the average molecular weight (LS)

$$I_s(\theta) \propto c \times M \times \left(\frac{dn}{dc}\right)^2$$



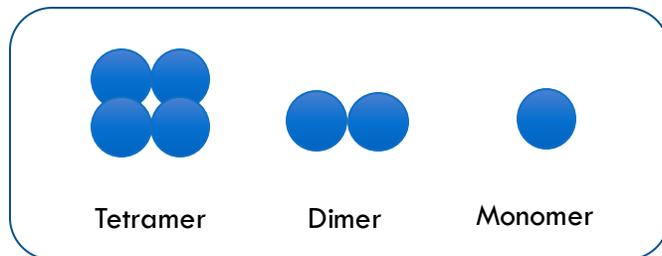
Sample requirement:

- 90% pure
- 2mg/mL
- 50 μ L

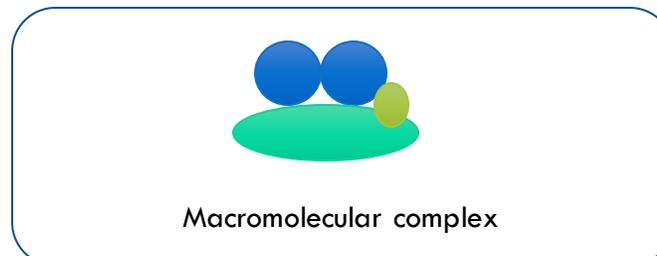
SEC-MALLS Applications

Weight-averaged molar mass (M_w) of particles separable by SEC

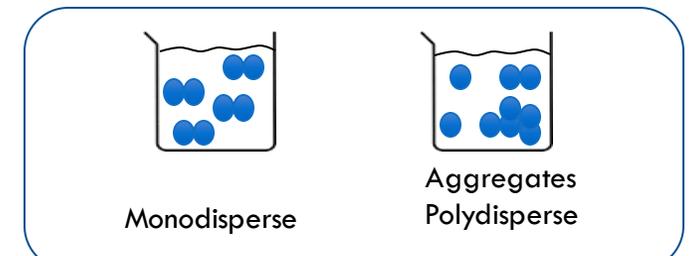
- Molecular weight in solution
- Oligomeric state
- Stoichiometry of my multimolecular complex
- **Mass contribution from two components**
 - Protein and detergent micelle
 - Protein and glycan
- Sample homogeneity, aggregation



Oligomeric state

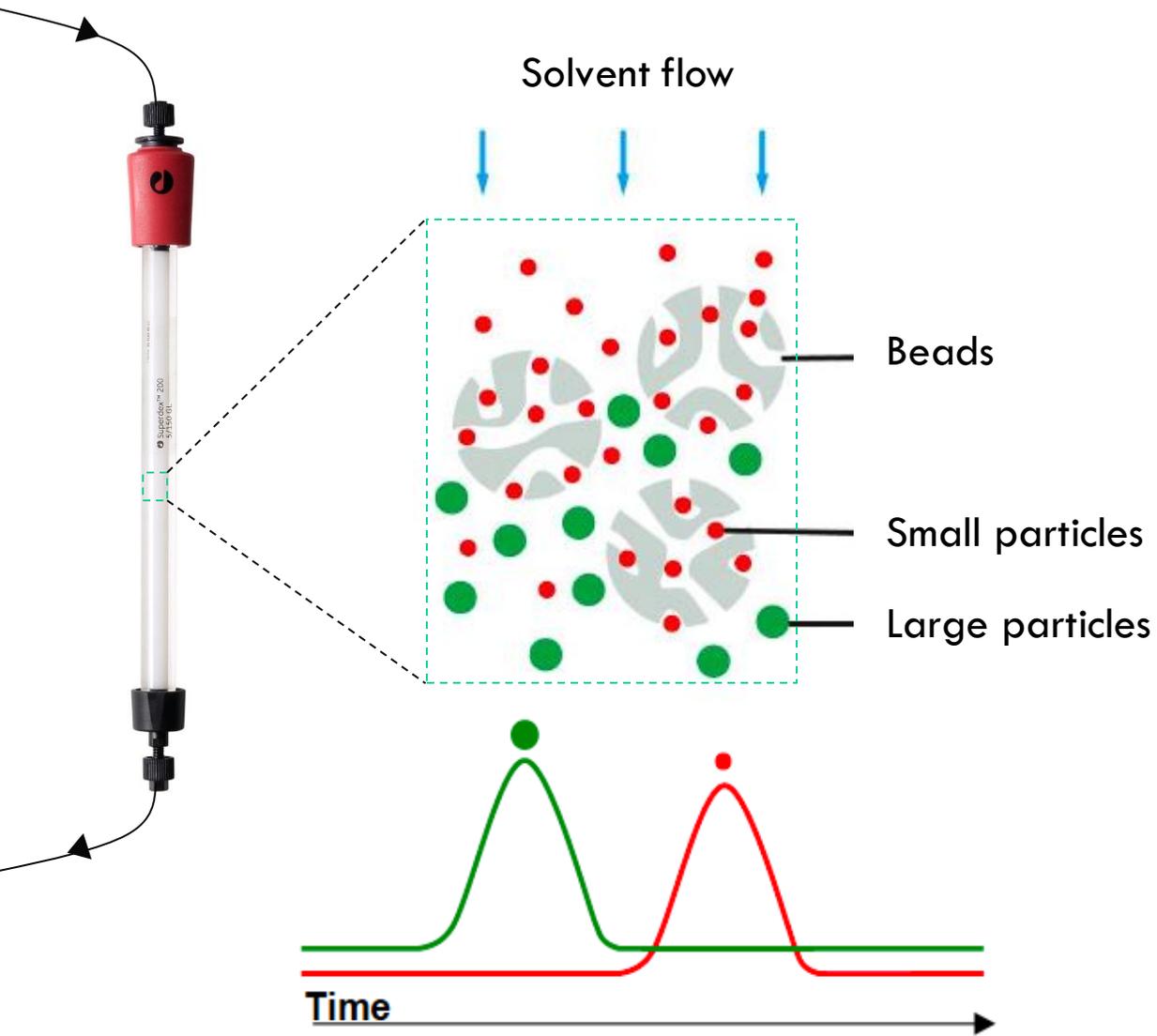


Stoichiometry of multimolecular complex



Homogeneity

Size Exclusion Chromatography - SEC



Size Exclusion Chromatography (SEC) is a chromatographic method in which molecules are separated based on their size.

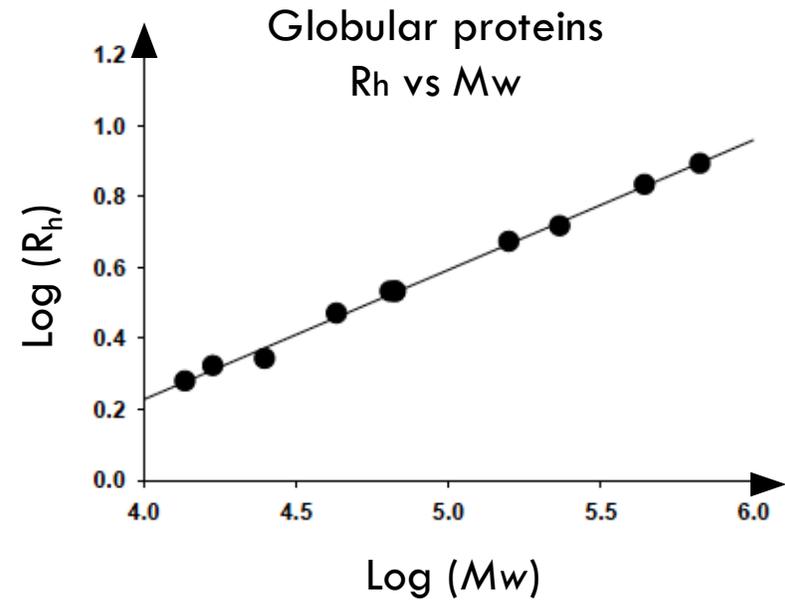
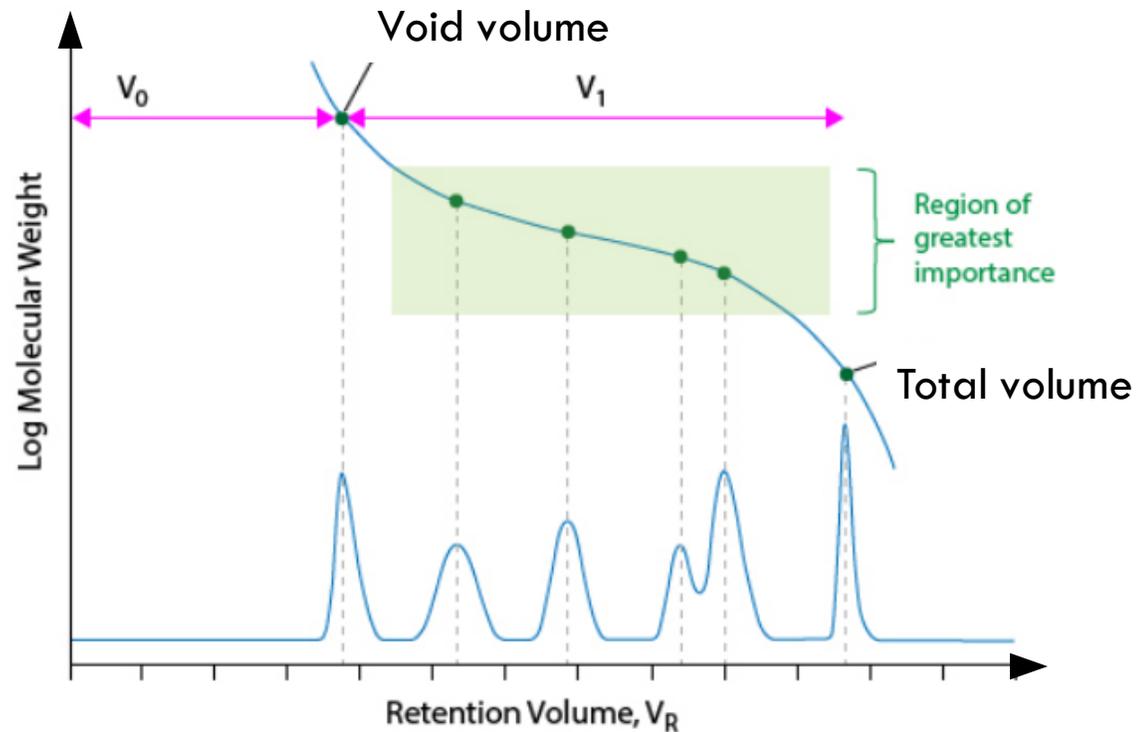
It means that the elution volume is related to their hydrodynamic volume / radius (R_h) and not to their molecular weight.

How does SEC works?

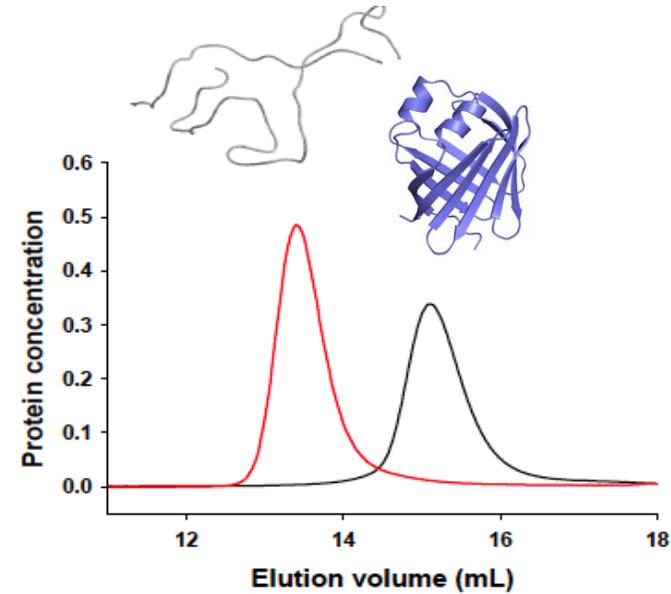
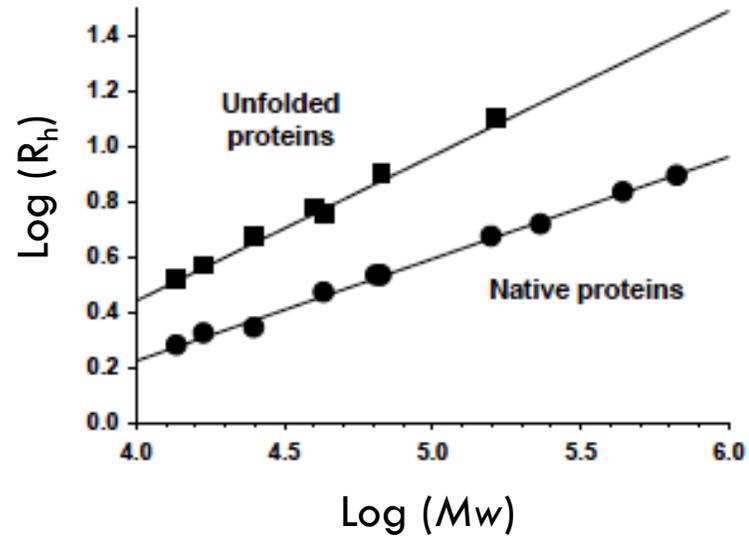
To connect the size (R_h) to the molecular weight, it is necessary to make a calibration with known globular molecular weight standards.

Traditional SEC assumes that the sample of interest:

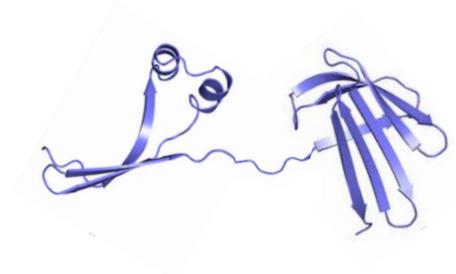
- has the same molecular conformation as the calibration standards
- does not interact with the stationary phase of the column



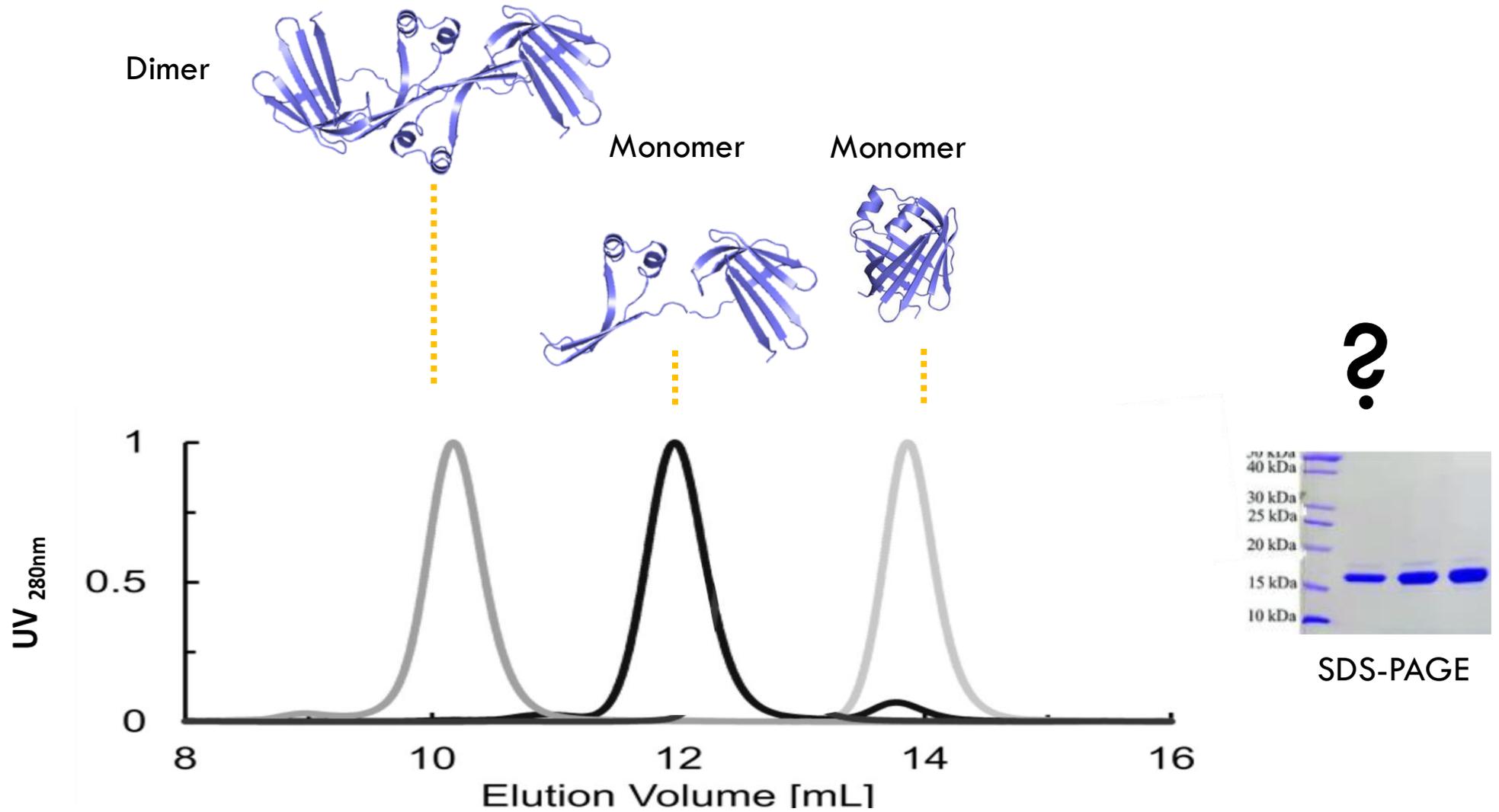
What about non-globular proteins?



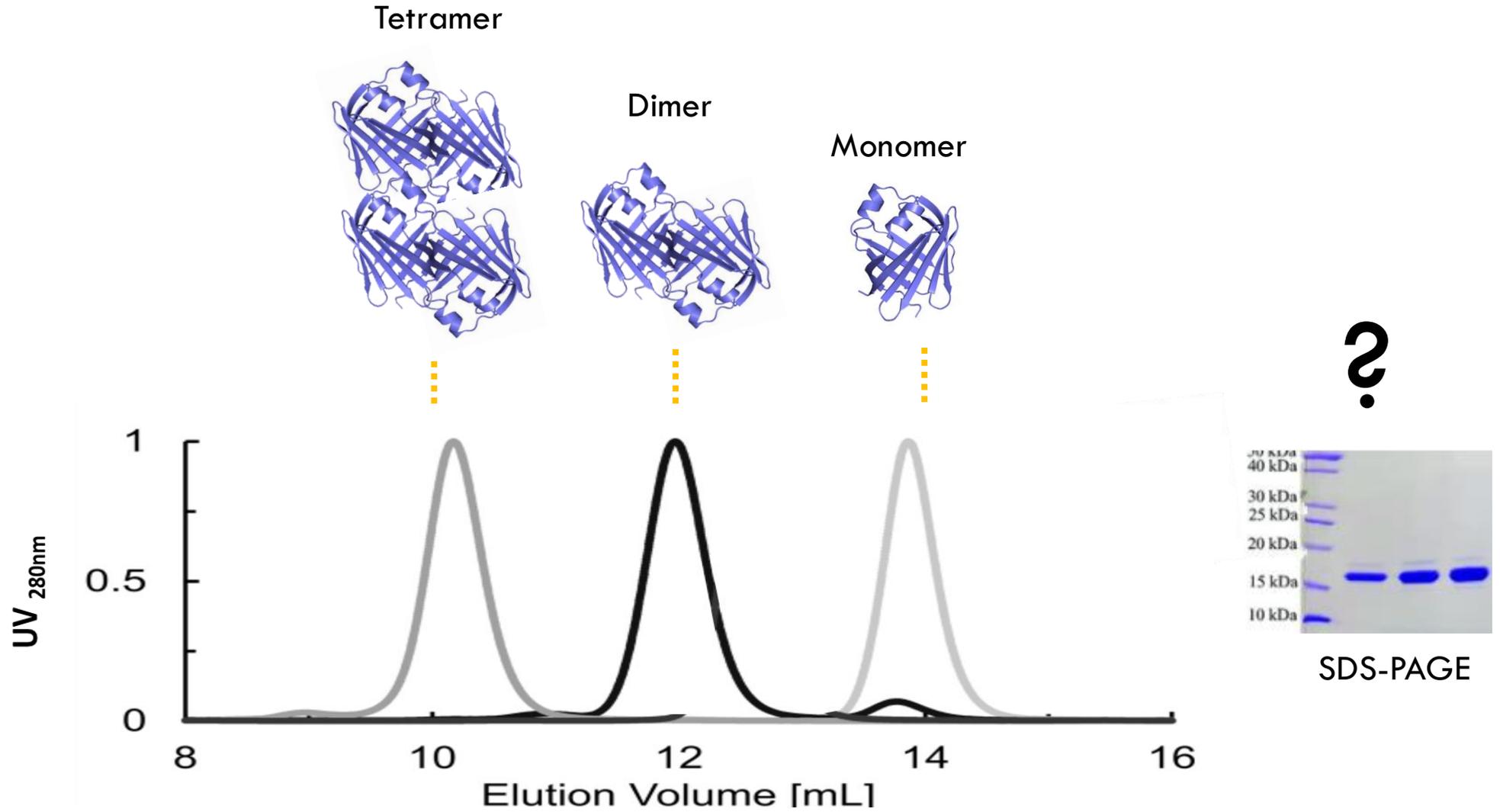
The hydrodynamic radius depends on the shape of the particle
Most proteins are not globular...



Interpretation of SEC data

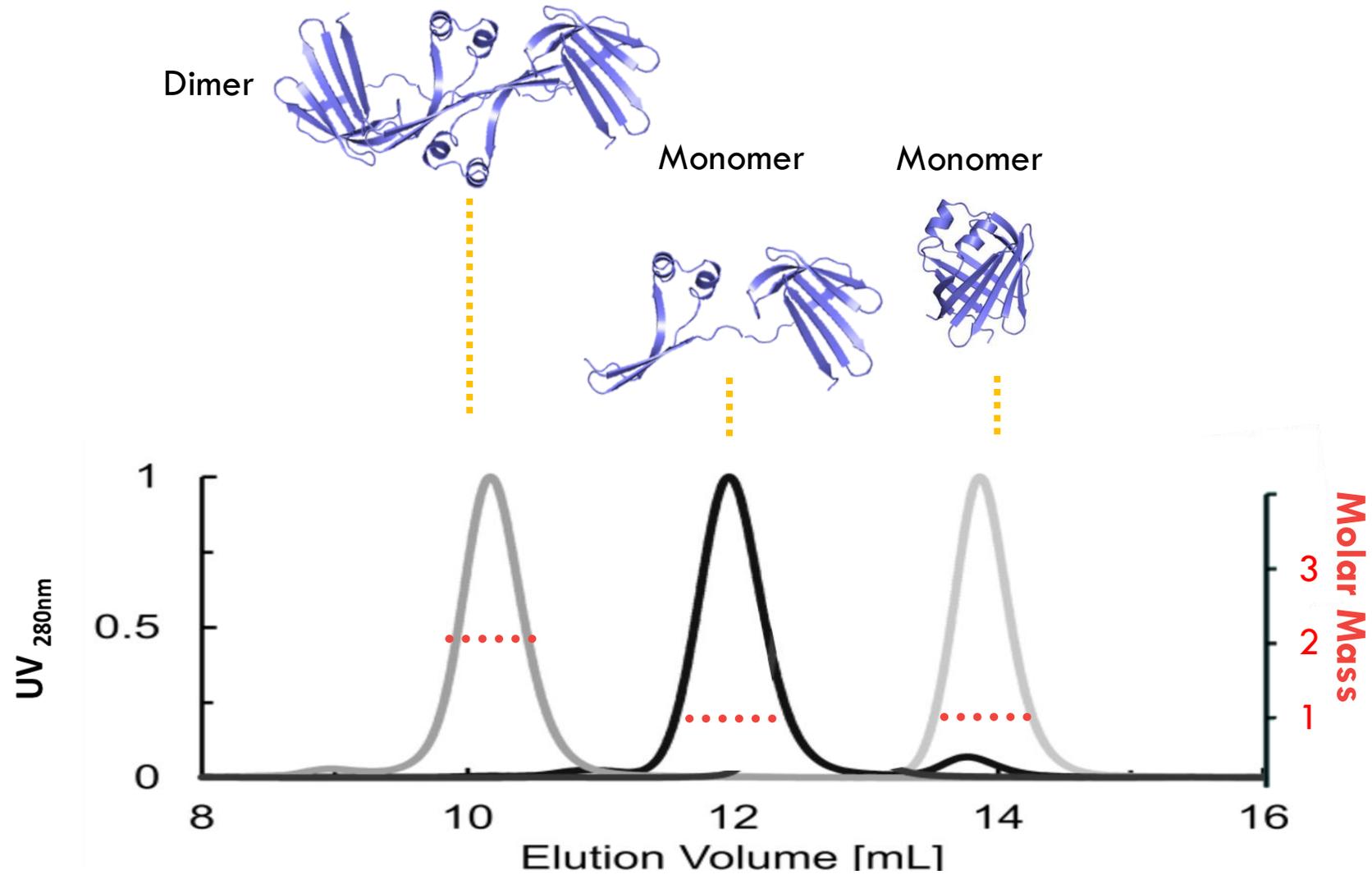


Interpretation of SEC data



Interpretation of SEC data

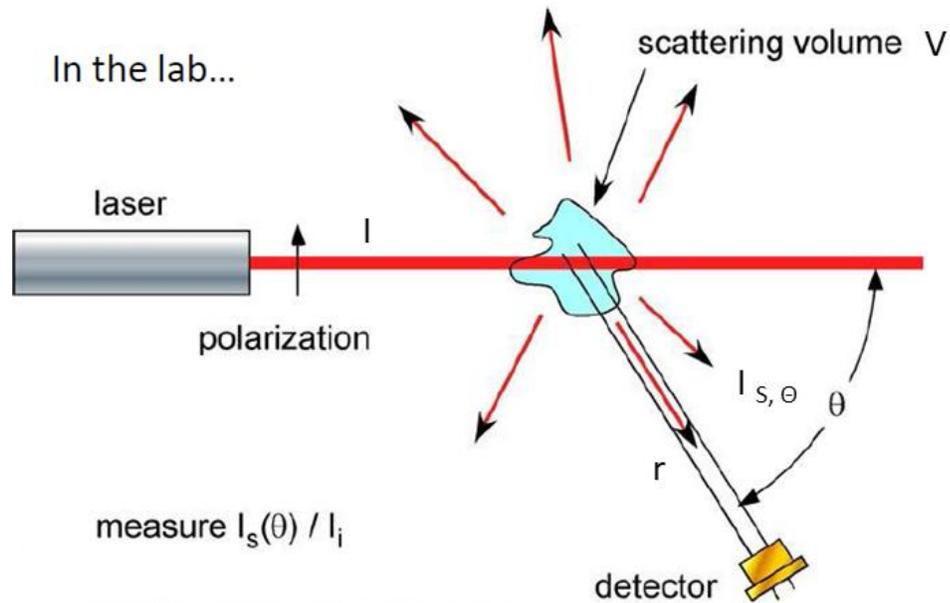
Molar Mass information



Multi Angle Laser Light Scattering

Static Light Scattering – SLS

MALLS measures the time-average intensity of scattered light

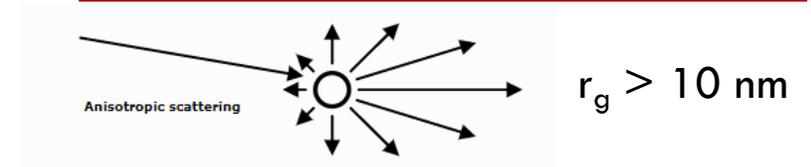
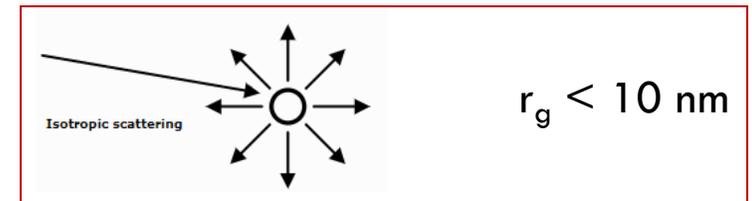


Rayleigh scattering

$$R(\theta) = \frac{I_{s,\theta}}{I_0} \frac{r^2}{V \sin^2 \theta}$$



Lord Rayleigh (John Strutt)
(1842-1919)



Simple analytical description of Rayleigh scattering

The Rayleigh-Gans-Debye Equation

$$R(\theta) = \frac{4\pi^2 n_0^2}{N_A \lambda_0^4} \left(\frac{dn}{dc} \right)^2 M c P(\theta) [1 - 2A_2 M c P(\theta)]$$

Excess Rayleigh scatter (above solvent) at angle θ

K : optical constant

M: molar mass
C: concentration

Term accounting for the intermolecular interference terms in the second virial coefficient A_2
> **Negligible**

$P(\theta)$: Form factor
Angular term reflecting R_g
> **Negligible (isotropic scattering)**

Multi Angle Laser Light Scattering

The **intensity of light scattering** of a solution is directly proportional to the average **molecular weight** and to the **concentration** of its components

$$I_s(\theta) \propto c \times M \times \left(\frac{dn}{dc}\right)^2$$

- M is the average molar mass of the scattering macromolecules, which is to be determined
- c is the concentration of the macromolecule(in mg/ml)
- dn/dc is a sample specific value, which relates changes of refractive index of the solution in relation to the change of concentration. Averaged value for proteins: 0.185 ml/g

Refractive index

The Refractometer detector measures the difference of refractive index between sample and reference

Detection of all types of compounds even if they do not absorb.

> RI measurement is used to measure sample's concentration.

$$\Delta RI = n_s - n_r = c \frac{dn}{dc} \quad c = \frac{\Delta RI}{\left(\frac{dn}{dc}\right)}$$

For **soluble proteins**: RI is used to measure the quantity of protein

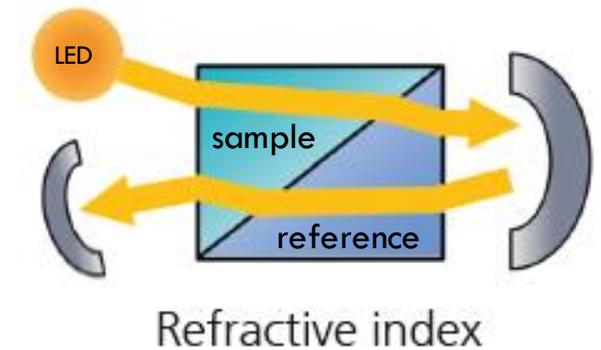
For **membrane or glycosylated proteins**: RI and A_{280} are used for determination of detergent bound

$$n = c/v$$

c is the speed of light in vacuum

v is the speed of light in the medium

dn/dc is the specific refractive index increment = 0.185 ml/g for proteins



UV Absorbance

For **soluble proteins**

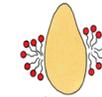
Absorbance is not used for the determination of the molar mass (RI is used)

For **membrane proteins or Glycosylated proteins**

UV and RI detectors are used for concentration measurements in two orthogonal ways: Allows for deconvolution of mass contribution of two components (protein/detergent or protein/glycosylation)

Absorbance 280 nm → concentration of protein (ϵ_{prot})

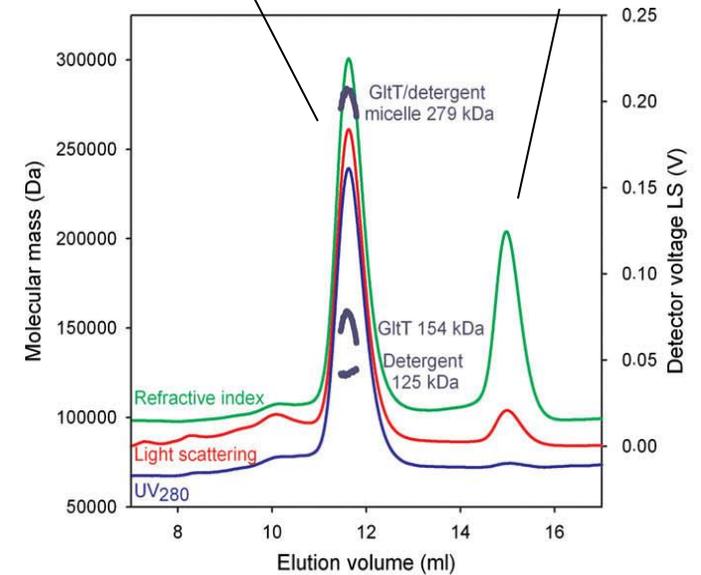
Deconvolution of signal RI → used to calculate the amount and mass of detergent



Protein detergent complex

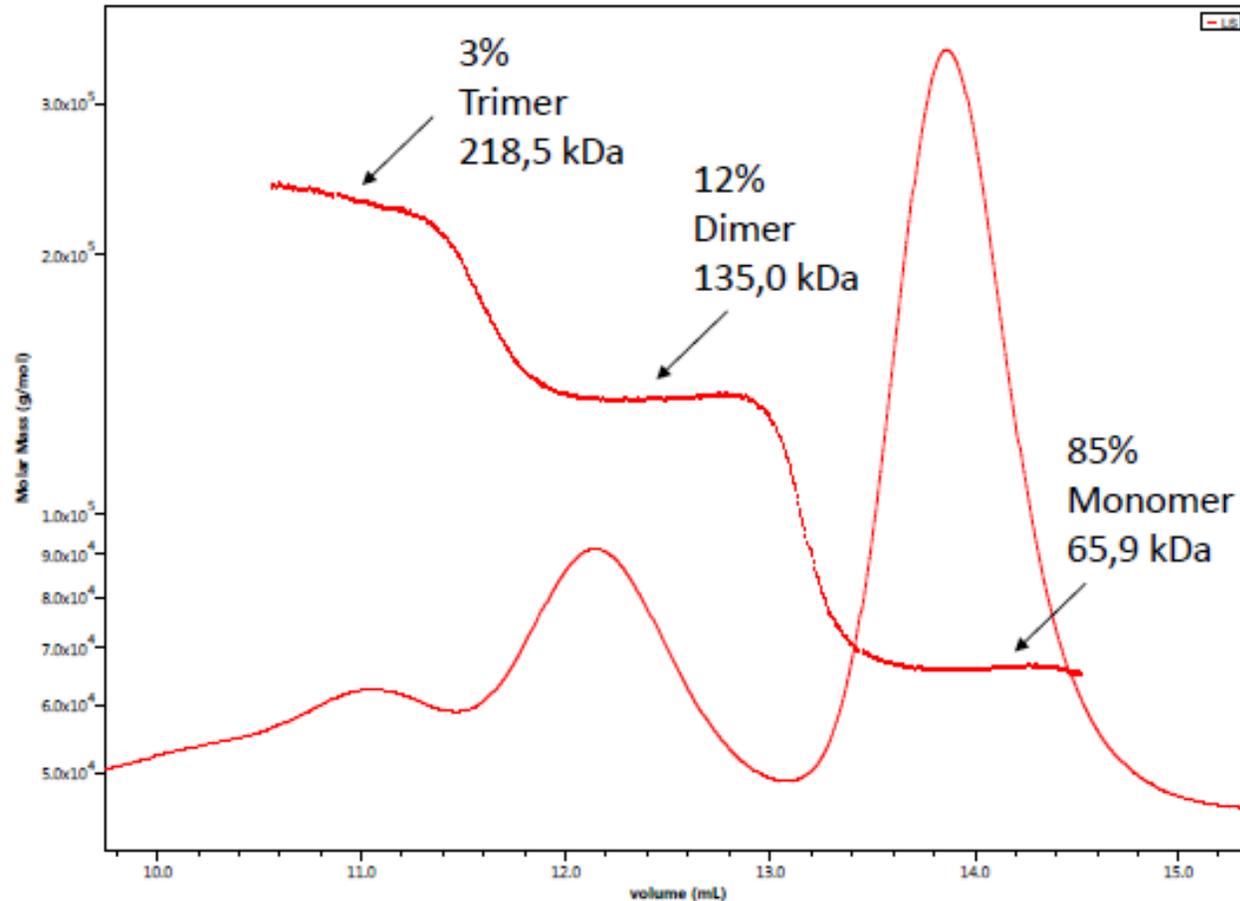


Micelle

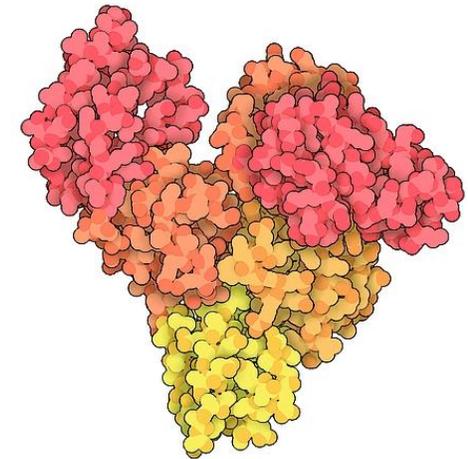


Analysis of Bovine serum albumin - BSA

- Example of the BSA (50uL at 2mg/mL injected on a KW 804 Shodex column)



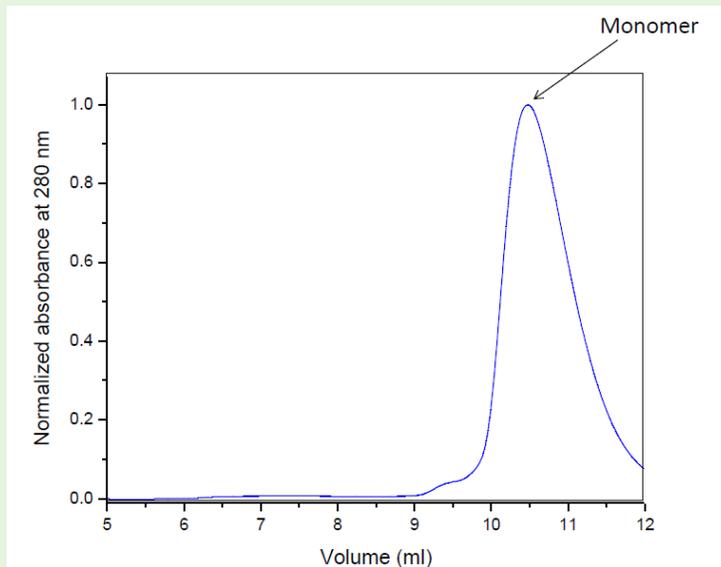
RI + LS \Rightarrow c + M
RI \Rightarrow amount (μ g)
under each peak
Input : $(\partial n / \partial c)$
UV not used



BSA molecular artwork, courtesy of Dr. David Goodsell.

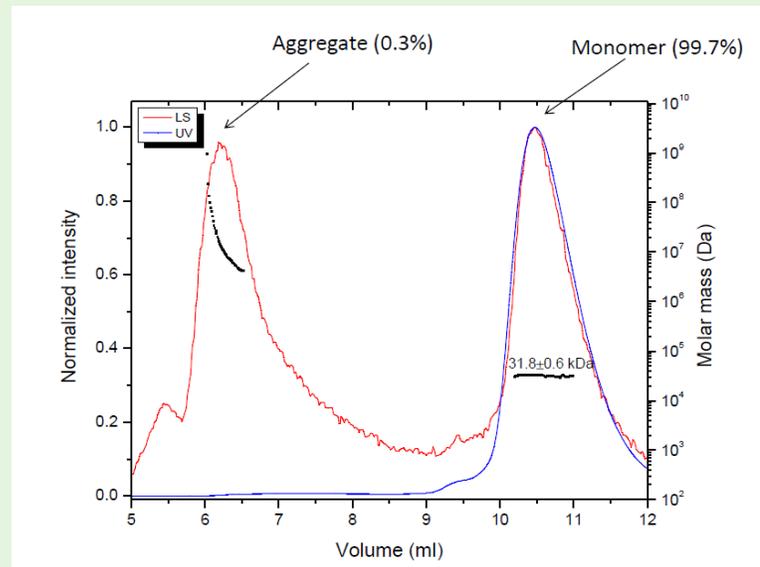
Detection of aggregates

SEC



- Separation by size
- Calculating M_w based on calibration curves of globular proteins
- Heterogeneity of a sample is undetectable

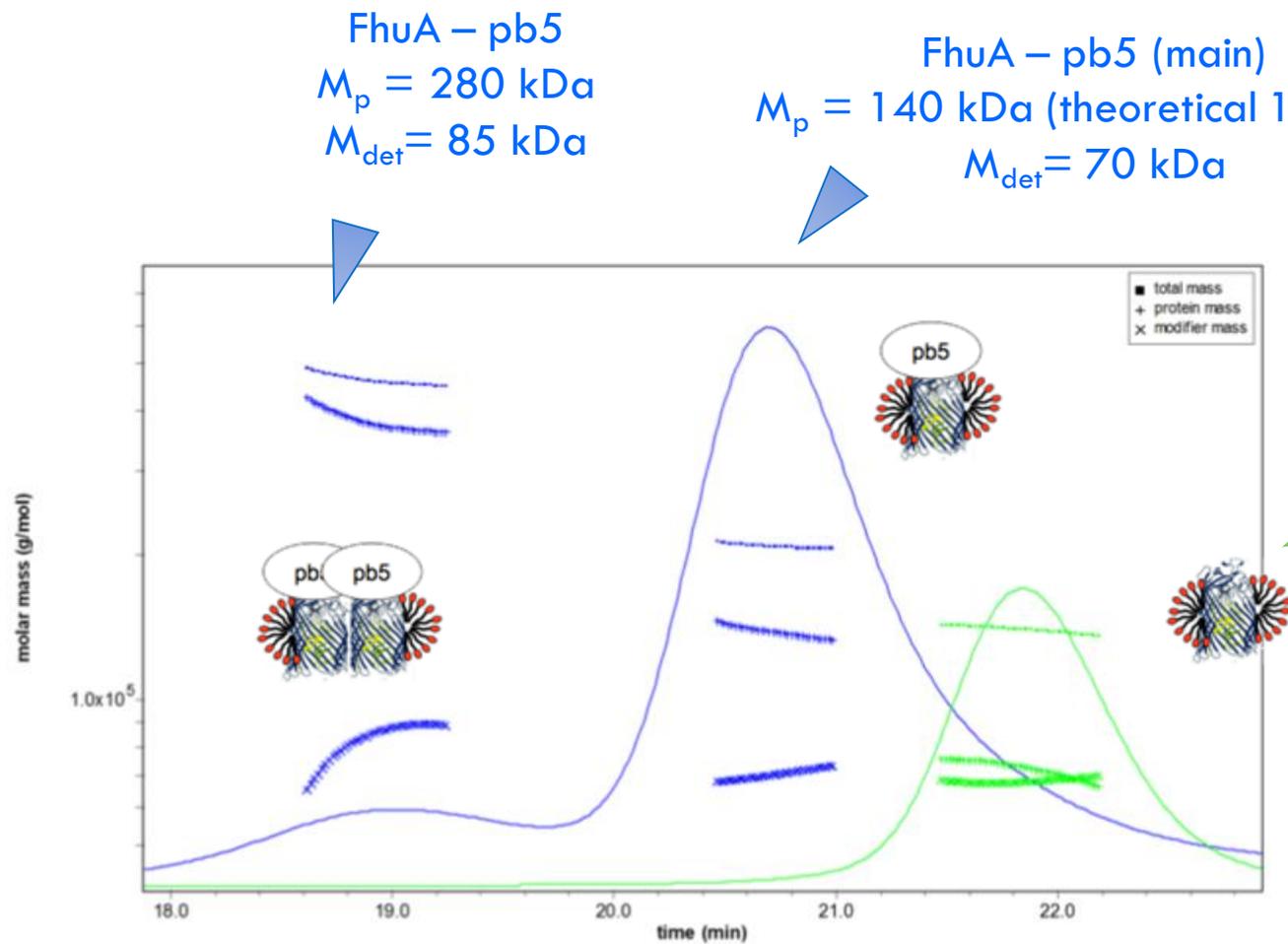
SEC- MALLS



- Separation by size
- Calculating M_w from the light scattering equations
- Calculate the M_w during the elution peaks, indicate homogeneity of a sample
- Detect low amount of aggregation : large molecules amplify the intensity of LS

- Light scattering
- Absorbance 280 nm

Membrane protein



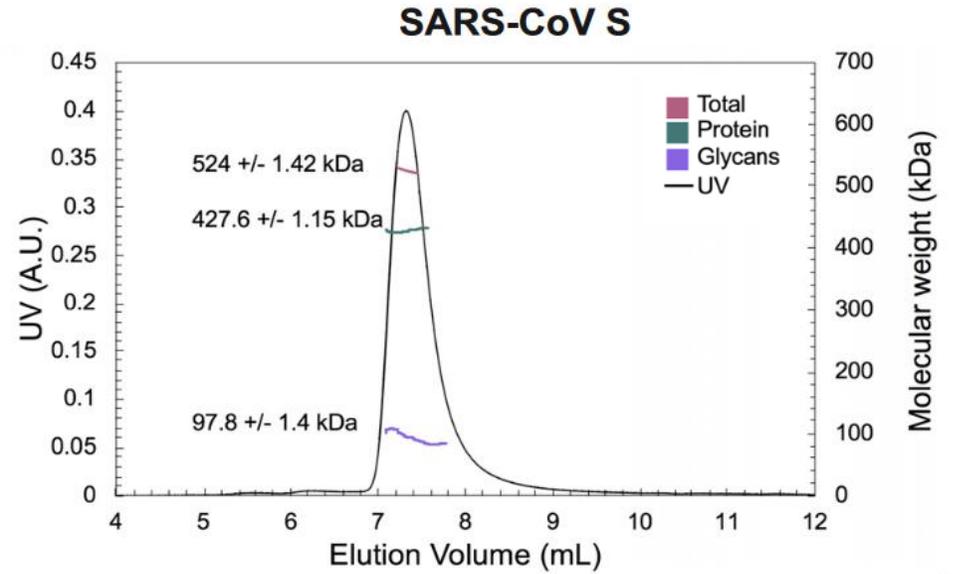
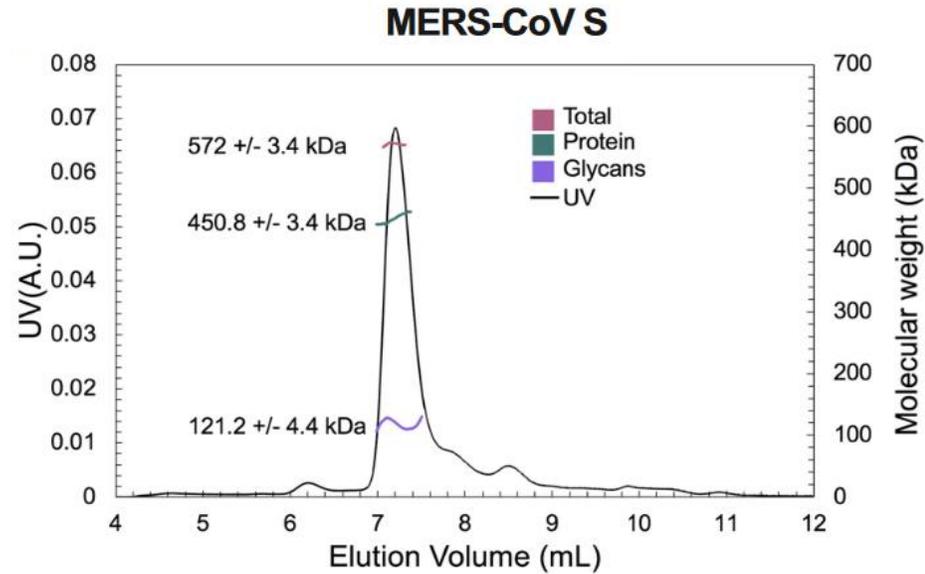
FhuA – pb5
 $M_p = 280$ kDa
 $M_{det} = 85$ kDa

FhuA – pb5 (main)
 $M_p = 140$ kDa (theoretical 151kDa)
 $M_{det} = 70$ kDa

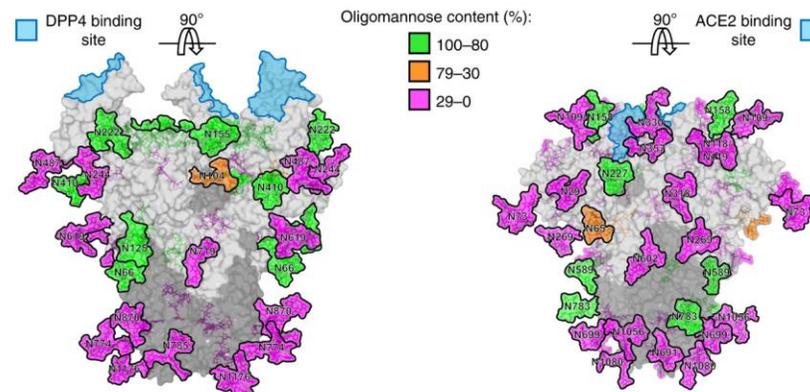
FhuA Ferrichrome transporter from *E. coli*. Pb5 receptor binding protein of the bacteriophage T5

FhuA
 $M_p = 72$ kDa (theoretical 80kDa)
 $M_{det} = 68$ kDa

Glycosylated protein



Modelling of the experimentally observed glycosylation is illustrated on the prefusion structure of trimeric MERS S and SARS S glycoproteins.



SEC-MALLS

➤ **LS + RI = > M**

➤ For a two-component macromolecule (membrane protein, glycosylated protein)

Given extinction coefficients of the components are known:

Absorbance + LS + RI = > M of the partners within the complex

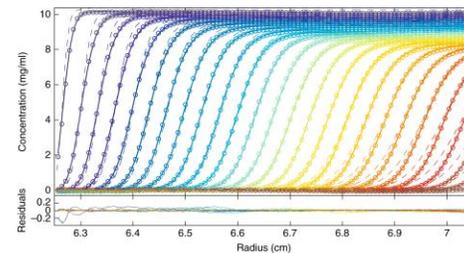
Advantages

- Simple and rapid (50 min for one sample)
- Absolute value of molecular mass
- Estimation of the polydispersity in a single chromatographic peak
- The column act as a filter and remove large aggregates

Limitations

- Uncontrolled sample dilution upon elution
- Not adapted to weak complexes with fast dissociation
- Require the separation of the the various species upon elution

Analytical Ultracentrifugation - AUC



Analytical ultracentrifugation

Spinning and watching molecule transportation

Measures the rate of sedimentation of your molecule

Measures the concentration as a function of the radial position at various times of centrifugation

Centrifugal force: $F_c = m\omega^2 r$

m : mass of the particule

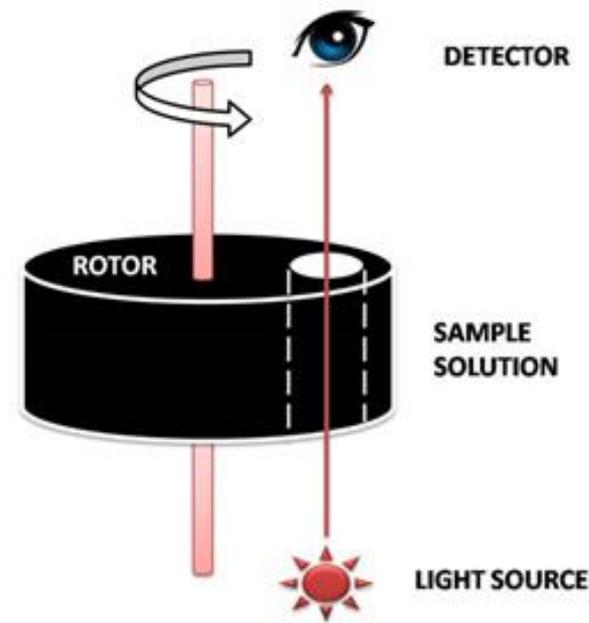
ω : 60000 rpm

r : 6-7cm

➤ 300 000 g

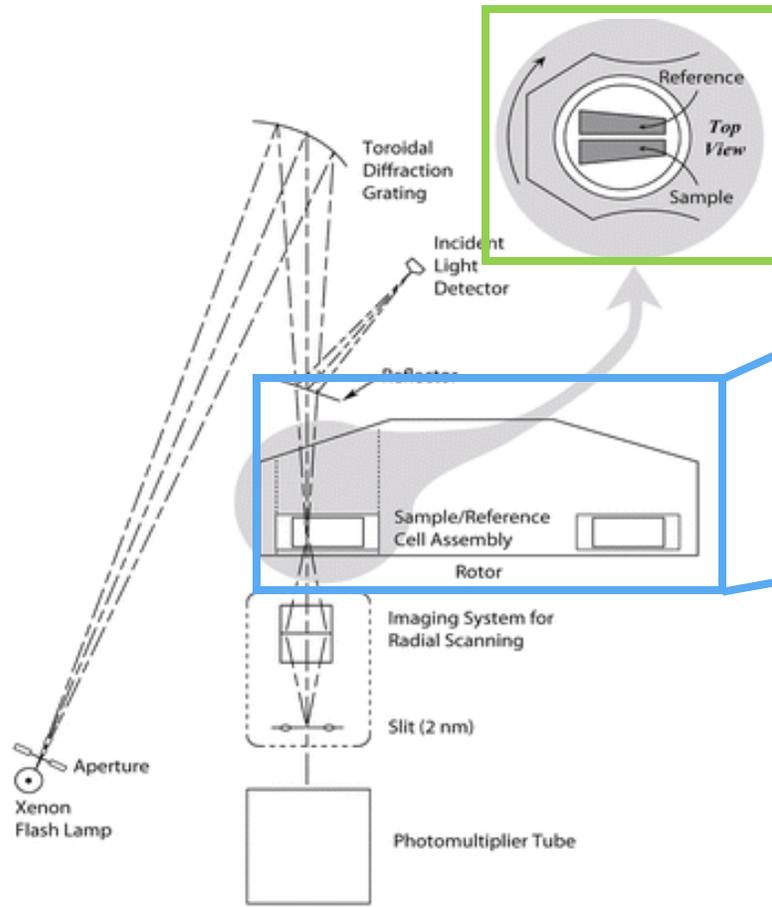
Applications

- Particle size distribution
- Particle composition
- Molecular weight distribution
- Shape factor
- Purity or heterogeneity
- Analysis of associating systems



Analytical ultracentrifugation

Spinning and watching molecule transportation

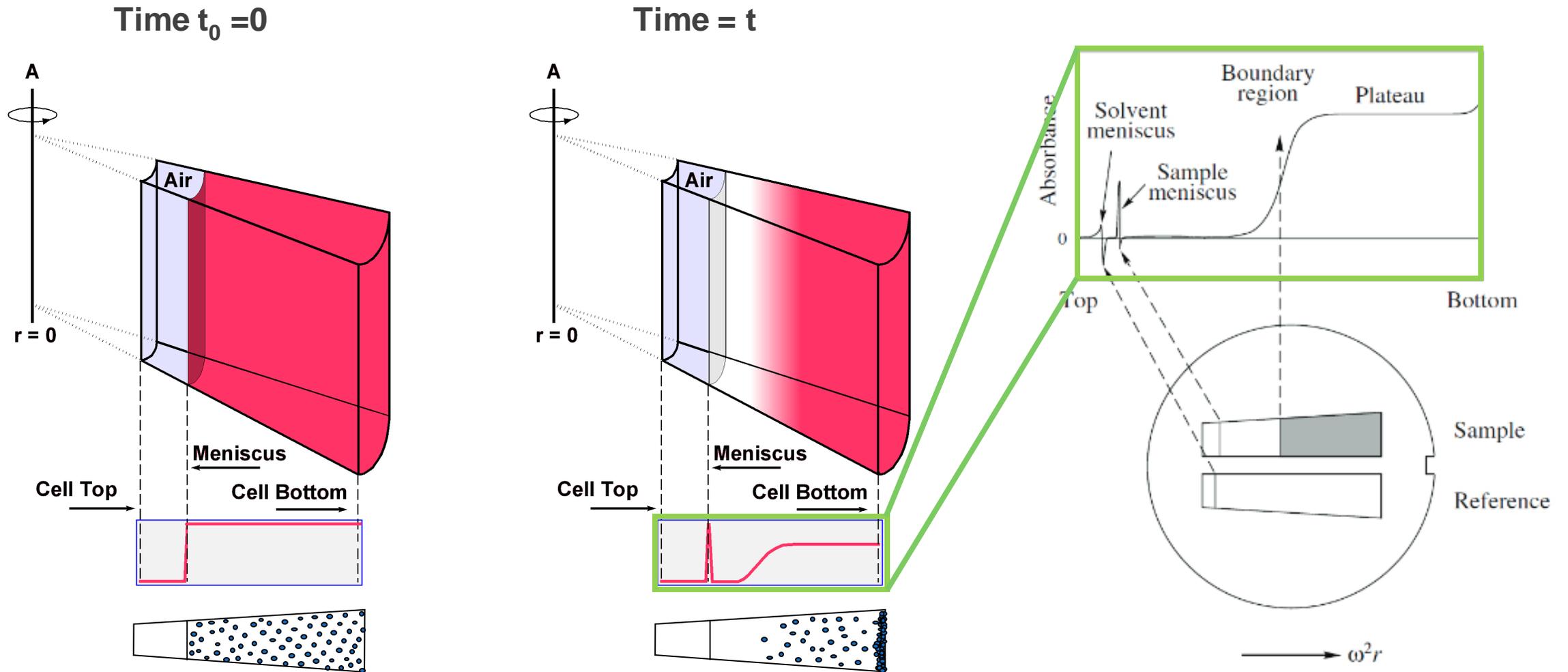


Path length (cm)	Volume (μL)	Required (μL)
1.2	400-420	450
0.3	100-110	150
0.15	50-55	75

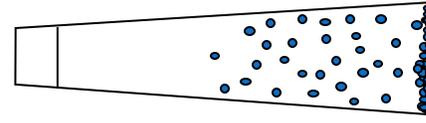


Analytical ultracentrifugation

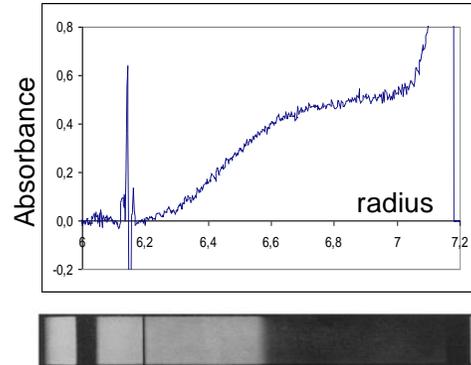
Spinning and watching molecule transportation



Optical system



Absorbance

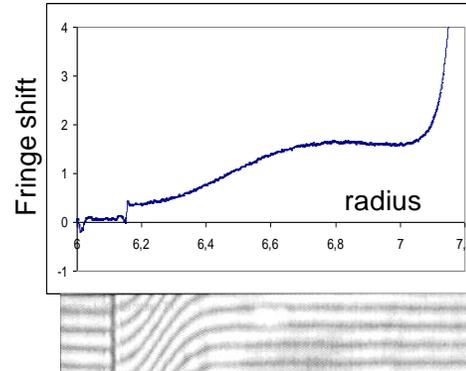


$$A = E_{0.1\%} I c$$

Selectivity depending on presence of chromophore

0.1-2 mg/mL typically
(60-500 μ L)

Interference

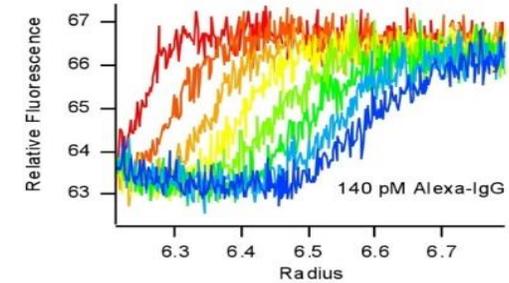


$$\Delta J \propto (\partial n / \partial c) I c$$

Not selective
Measures everything
(detergent, glycerol...)

0.1 - >10 mg/mL
(60-500 μ L)

Fluorescence

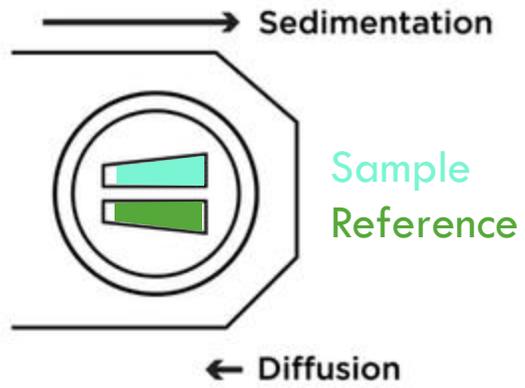


Signal in arbitrary units

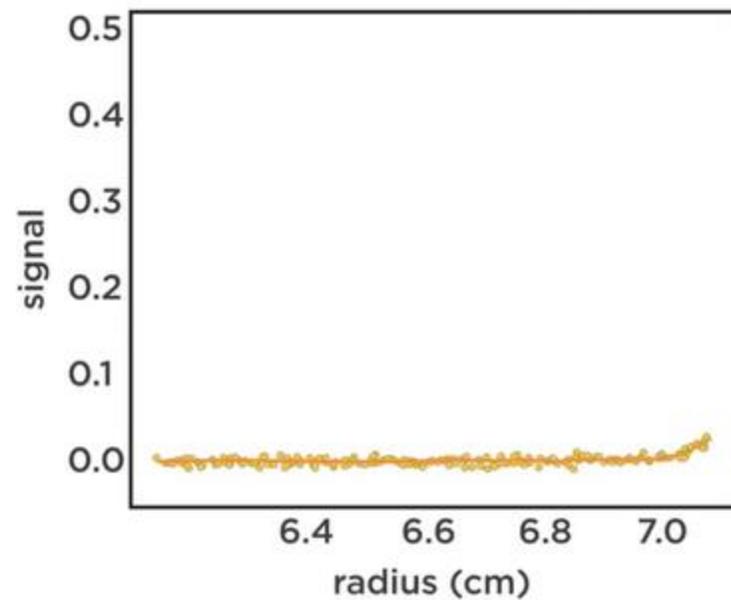
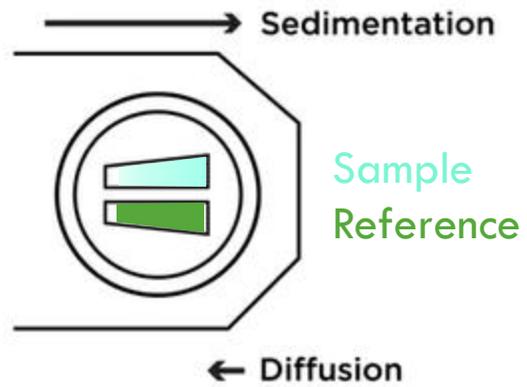
Highly selective
Requires fluorescent labeling

pM- μ M
(500 μ L)

Sedimentation velocity

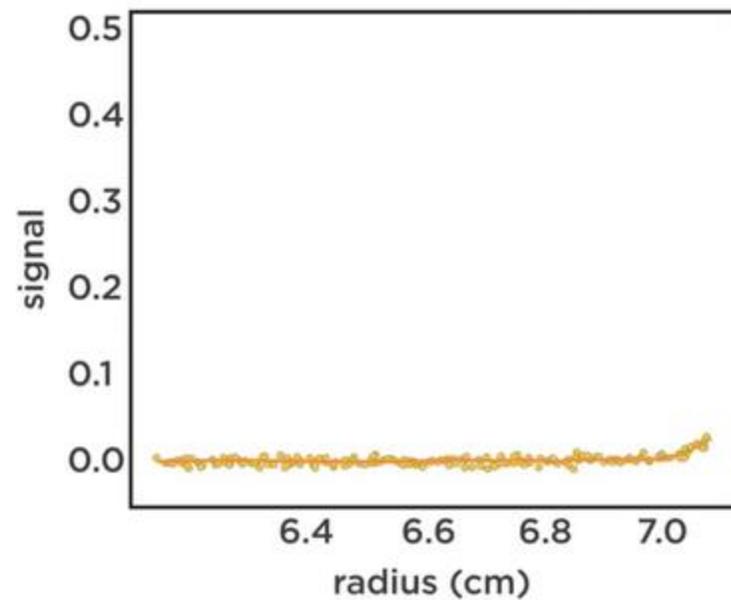
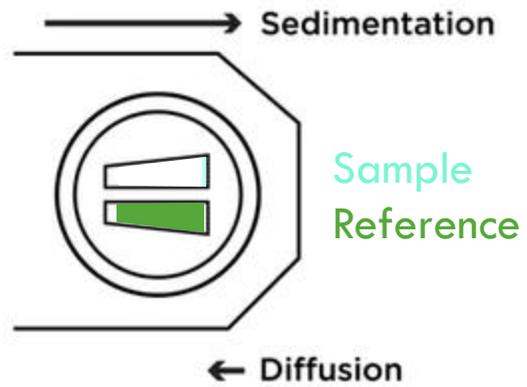


Sedimentation velocity



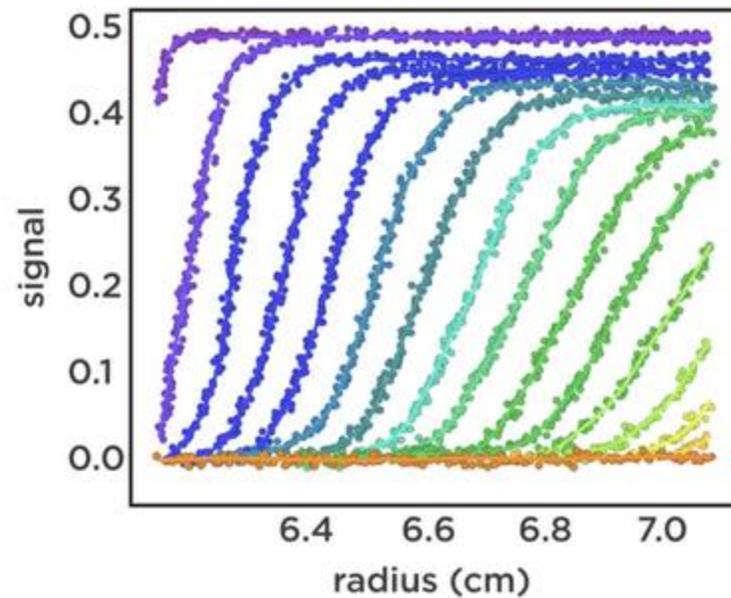
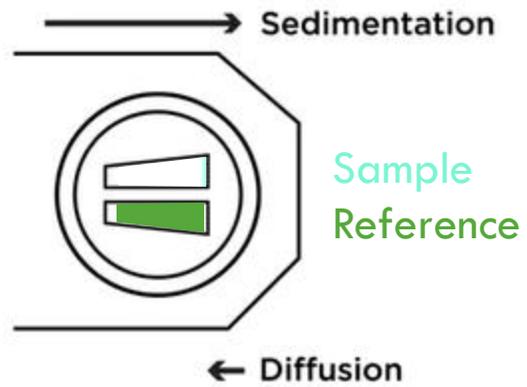
- t= 0 min
- t= 15 min
- t= 30min
- t= 1h
- t= 3 h
- t= 5 h
- t= 6 h

Sedimentation velocity



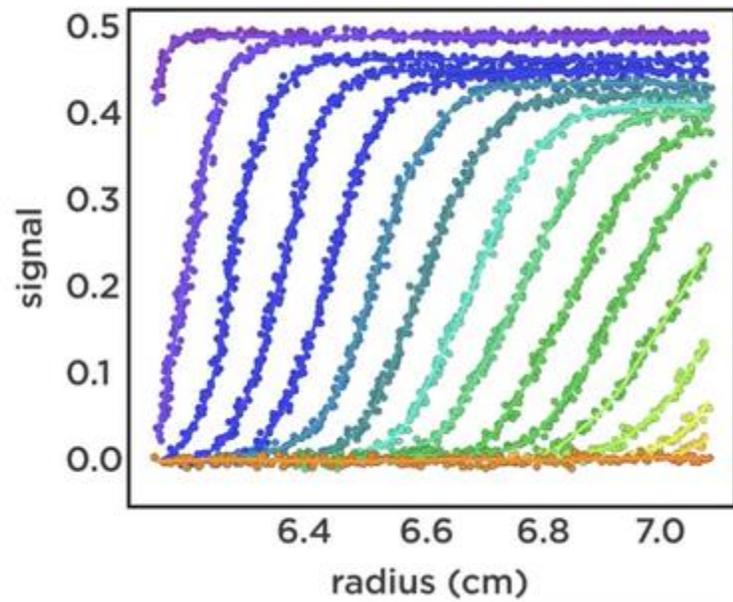
- t = 0 min
- t = 15 min
- t = 30 min
- t = 1 h
- t = 3 h
- t = 5 h
- t = 6 h

Sedimentation velocity



- t = 0 min
- t = 15 min
- t = 30 min
- t = 1 h
- t = 3 h
- t = 5 h
- t = 6 h

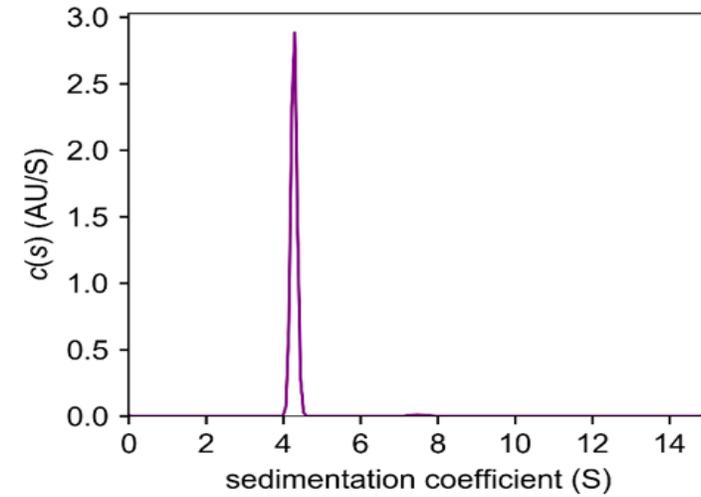
Sedimentation velocity



Sedimentation profile



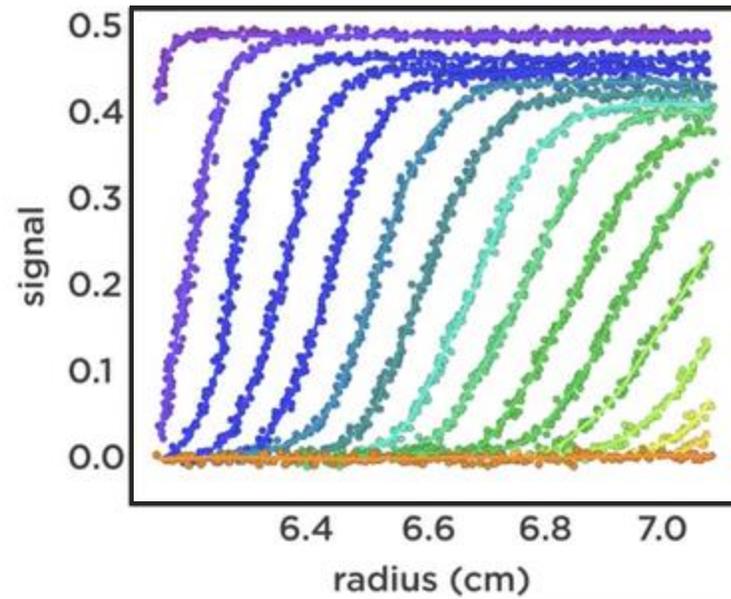
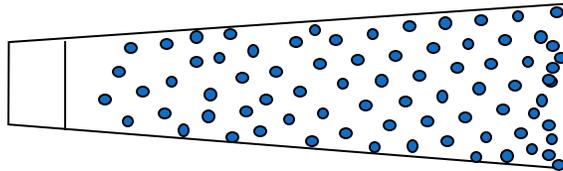
Data analysis



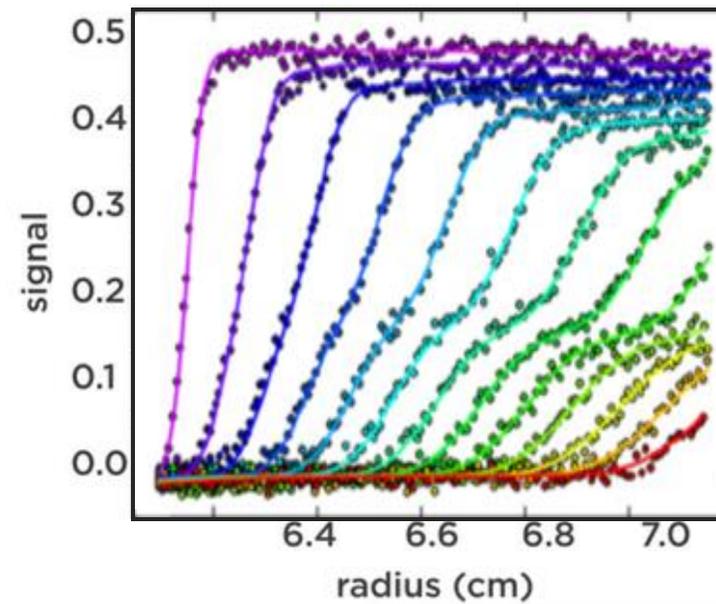
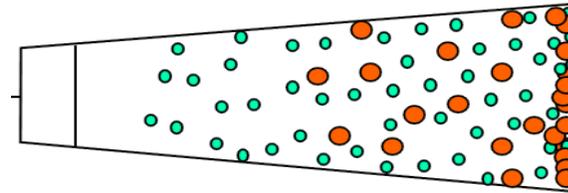
c(s) distribution

Sedimentation velocity

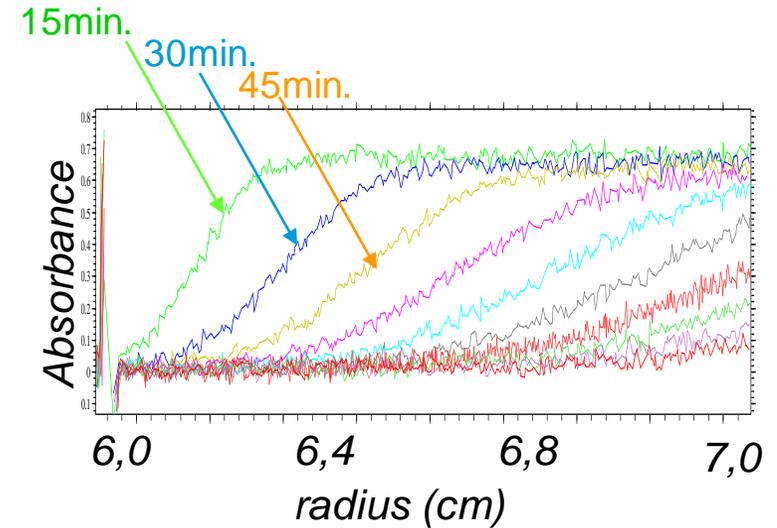
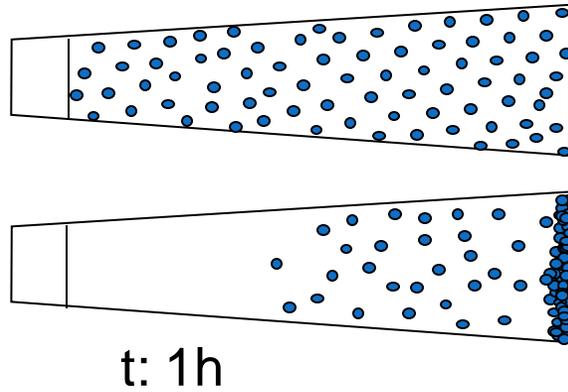
Single boundary



Multiple boundaries



Sedimentation velocity



Angular velocity:

Large compared to the ability of the particle to sediment
(typically 42000 revs. per min)

Duration:

Some hours

Analysis:

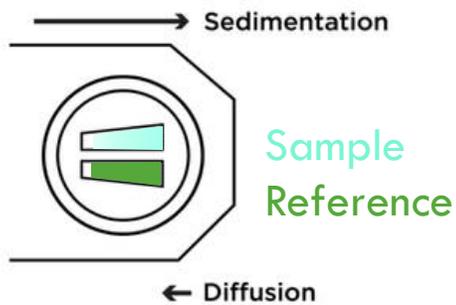
Measures rate of sedimentation
As a function of time
Formation of a boundary

Sample:

420, 110 or 55 μ l ($l=12, 3$ or 1.5 mm)

Information:

Sedimentation coefficient (s), Frictional ratio f/f_{min} (shape), estimate Mw



AUC theoretical background

For a dilute homogeneous sample

F_c : centrifugal force

$$F_c = m\omega^2 r = \frac{M}{N_A} \omega^2 r$$

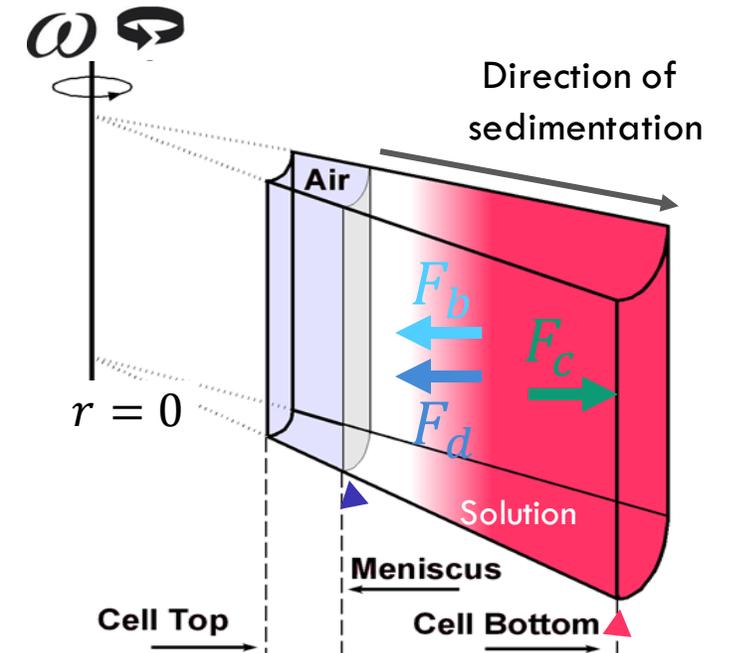
F_d : Viscous drag

$$F_d = -fv$$

F_b : buoyant force

from Archimedes' principle, is equal to the weight of fluid displaced

$$F_b = -m_0\omega^2 r = -(m\bar{v}\rho)\omega^2 r = -\left(\frac{M}{N_A} \bar{v}\rho\right) \omega^2 r$$



- ω angular velocity
- r distance to the axe of rotation
- m mass of the particle
- M molar mass
- f frictional coefficient, which depends on the shape and size of the particle
- v velocity

m_0 mass of fluid displaced by the particle

$$m_0 = m\bar{v}\rho = \frac{M}{N_A} \bar{v}\rho$$

ρ density of the solvent (g/mL)
 \bar{v} partial specific volume, is the volume that each gram of the solute occupies in solution (the inverse of its density)

AUC theoretical background

$$F_c + F_b + F_d = 0$$
$$\frac{M}{N_A} (1 - \bar{v}\rho)\omega^2 r - fv = 0$$
$$\frac{M(1 - \bar{v}\rho)}{N_A f} = \frac{f}{\omega^2 r} = s$$

Within a very short time
the 3 forces come into balance

Sedimentation coefficient s :
velocity of the particle per unit of
gravitational acceleration

➤ measurement

AUC theoretical background

$$F_c + F_b + F_d = 0$$



The Svedberg equation

$$S = \frac{M(1 - \bar{v}\rho)}{N_A 6\pi\eta R_h}$$

sedimentation coefficient
s in Svedberg (S)
 $1 \text{ S} = 10^{-13} \text{ s}$

R_h hydrodynamic radius
 η solvent viscosity
 f frictional coefficient of a molecule depends on the size of the particle, it is proportional to the hydrodynamic radius R_h
 $f = 6\pi\eta R_h$

➤ Interpretation : macromolecular parameters

AUC theoretical background

Sedimentation coefficient velocity of the particles

$$S = \frac{M(1 - \bar{v}\rho)}{N_A 6\pi\eta R_h}$$

mass relative density

M_b buoyant mass

shape, viscosity



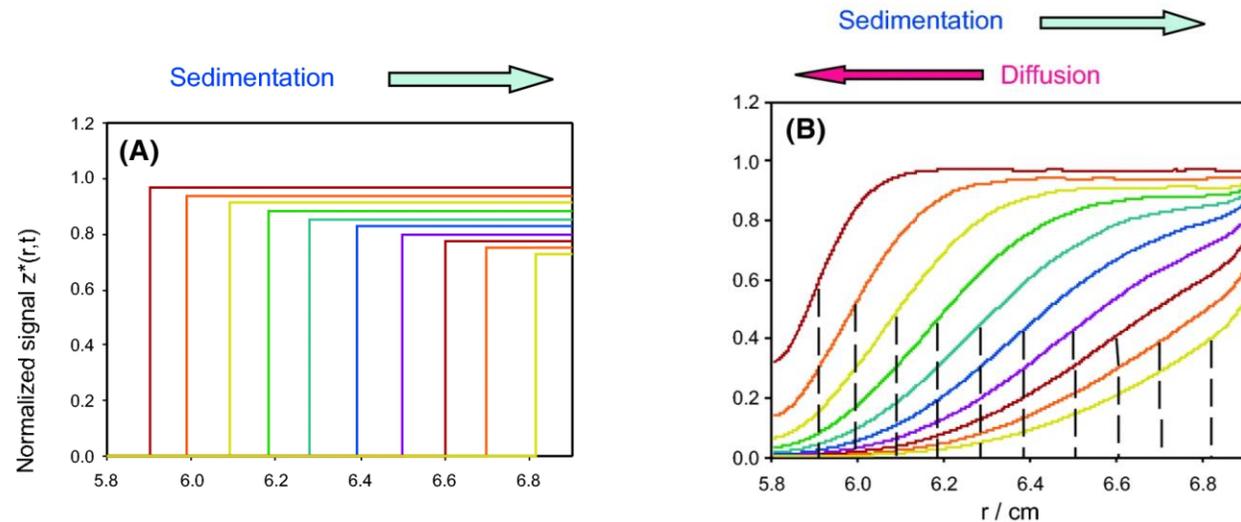
- ρ density of the solvent (g/mL)
- \bar{v} partial specific volume
- D translational diffusion coefficient
- M_b buoyant molar mass
- f frictional coefficient
- f_{min} frictional coefficient for a compact, spherical particle
- f/f_{min} frictional ratio
- R_H hydrodynamic radius
- R_{min} hydrodynamic radius for a compact, spherical particle

Spreading friction

$$D = \frac{RT}{N_A f} \quad \text{Stoke's Law}$$

$$R_h = f / f_{min} R_{min}$$

frictional ratio f/f_{min}



Theoretical progress of the boundary if no diffusion had occurred

In real, we see diffusion against the centrifugal force, so the end results in a series a sigmoidal curve

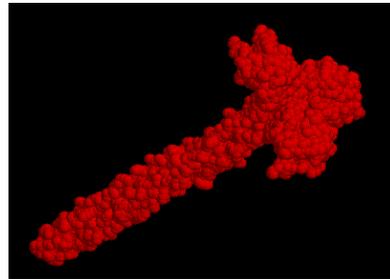
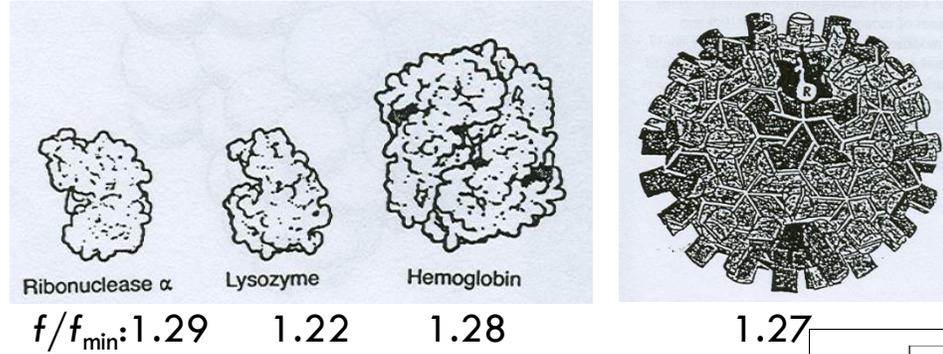
- The steepness of the boundaries give information on the frictional ratio f/f_{min}
- Non-globular or elongated particles with higher frictional coefficients experience greater drag, which reduces the rate of diffusion and therefore reduces boundary spreading

Approximate Values of Partial Specific Volumes \bar{v} and frictional ratios f/f_{min}

\bar{v} (ml/g)

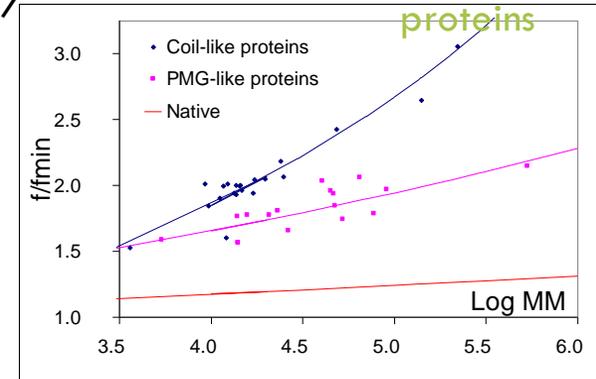
Protein: ≈ 0.74
 Sugar: ≈ 0.62
 DNA, Na⁺: ≈ 0.54
 DDM: 0.82
 LAPAO: 1.067
 lipid: ≈ 1
 H₂O: 1

f/f_{min}

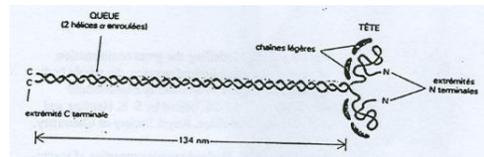


Langerin ECD $f/f_{min}=1.8$

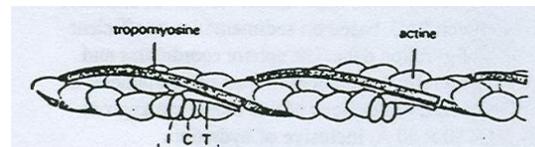
Globular compact macromolecule
 $f/f_{min} \approx 1.25$



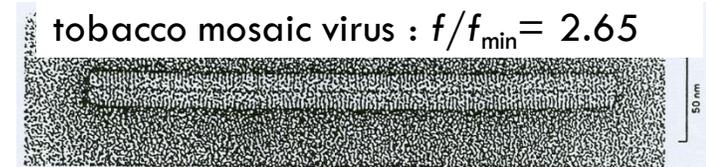
Glycosylated protein:
 typical $f/f_{min} = 1.5-1.8$



Myosin tail: $f/f_{min}=3.63$



tropomyosin: $f/f_{min}=2.65$



ρ, η : Density and viscosity of the solvents

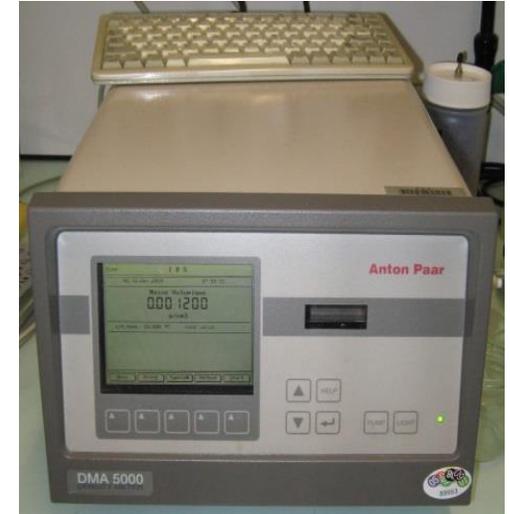
calculated by SEDTERP / UltraScan

<http://www.jphilo.mailway.com/download.htm>

The screenshot shows the SEDTERP / UltraScan software interface. It features a menu bar with 'File', 'Estimating Database', and 'Help'. The main window is divided into several sections:

- Calculate Buffer Density:** A checked checkbox. It includes input fields for 'Density' (0.99823) and 'Density Corrected for Temperature & Isotopes of Water' (0.99823).
- Calculate Buffer Viscosity:** An unchecked checkbox. It includes input fields for 'Viscosity' (0.01002) and 'Viscosity Corrected for Temperature' (0.01002).
- Components List:** A scrollable list of chemical components including 1-Propanol, 2-Propanol, Acetic acid, Acetone, Ammonium chloride, Ammonium hydroxide, Ammonium sulfate, Barium chloride, Cadmium chloride, Cadmium sulfate, and Calcium chloride. Navigation arrows and a 'Compute' button are located to the right of this list.
- Buffer Components Table:** A table with columns for 'Buffer Components', 'Concentration', and 'Units'. It is currently empty.
- Search:** A search bar with a 'pH' dropdown menu.
- Heavy Isotopes of Water:** A section with checkboxes and input fields for H₂O (100,00% Volume), D₂O (0,00% Volume), H₂O¹⁸ (0,00% Volume), and D₂O¹⁸ (0,00% Volume).
- Buttons:** 'Read Composition from File', 'Save Composition to File', 'Save Solvent to Database', 'OK', and 'Cancel' buttons are located at the bottom.

Or measured..

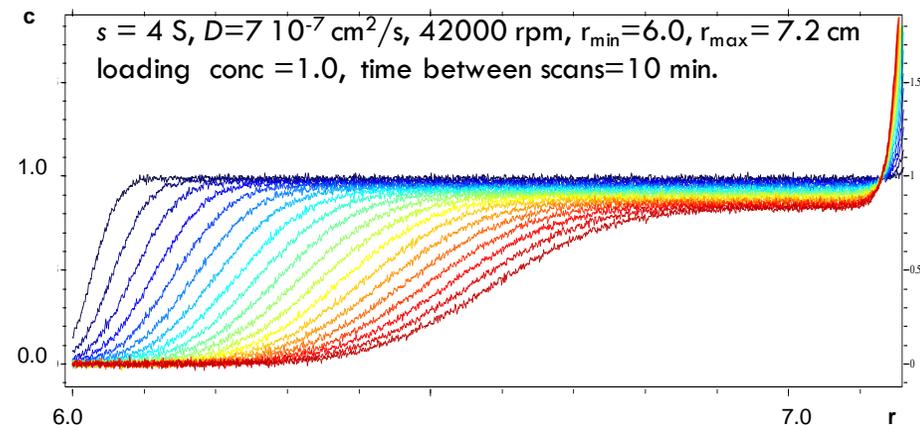
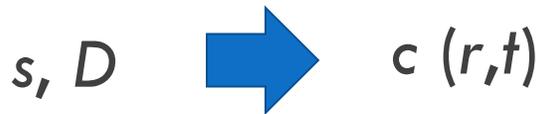


The Lamm equation

- Equation for the change in concentration over change in time
- Used to predict what the boundary shapes will look like

$$\frac{\delta C}{\delta t} = -\frac{1}{r} \left\{ \underbrace{\frac{\delta}{\delta r} \left[\omega^2 r^2 s C \right]}_{\text{Sedimentation flux}} - \underbrace{D r \frac{\delta C}{\delta r}}_{\text{Diffusion flux}} \right\}$$

The Lamm equation allows to **calculate the sedimentation concentration profile $c(r,t)$ for a single component** with a sedimentation coefficient s and a diffusion coefficient D at a given angular velocity ω



The Lamm equation

The Lamm equation can not be solved analytically, but it can be solved **numerically**. Computer programs like **SEDFIT** developed by P. Schuck fit the **experimental data**, by considering a **finite number of solutions (50-250)** and by applying a non linear least square analysis (or regularization process).

$$c(r,t) = \int c(s) f(s, D, r, t) ds \approx \sum c_n(s) f(s_n, D_n, r, t)$$

The diagram illustrates the components of the Lamm equation. It features the equation $c(r,t) = \int c(s) f(s, D, r, t) ds \approx \sum c_n(s) f(s_n, D_n, r, t)$ at the top. Below the equation, four blue arrows point upwards to specific parts of the equation. From left to right, these arrows point to: $c(r,t)$, $c(s)$, $f(s, D, r, t)$, and $c_n(s)$. Below each arrow is a text label: 'Experimental data for multiple components' (in red), 'Concentration of each specie', 'Lamm equation for one specie', and 'Calculated data with n species defined by c, s and D' (in blue).

Different models are available, including:

- $c(s)$ model: **diffusion + sedimentation** taken into account (proteins, small molecules)
- $ls-g^*(s)$: **Only sedimentation taken into account** (nanoparticles > 20 nm)

$$s + D \Rightarrow M_b/R_H, R_H$$

The $c(s)$ analysis

uses the simulation of the sedimentation for hundreds of particles

$c(s)$ sedimentation coefficient distribution, fixes a reasonable relation between s and D .

Input : f/f_{\min} , partial specific volume, i.e. same shape and density for all particles.

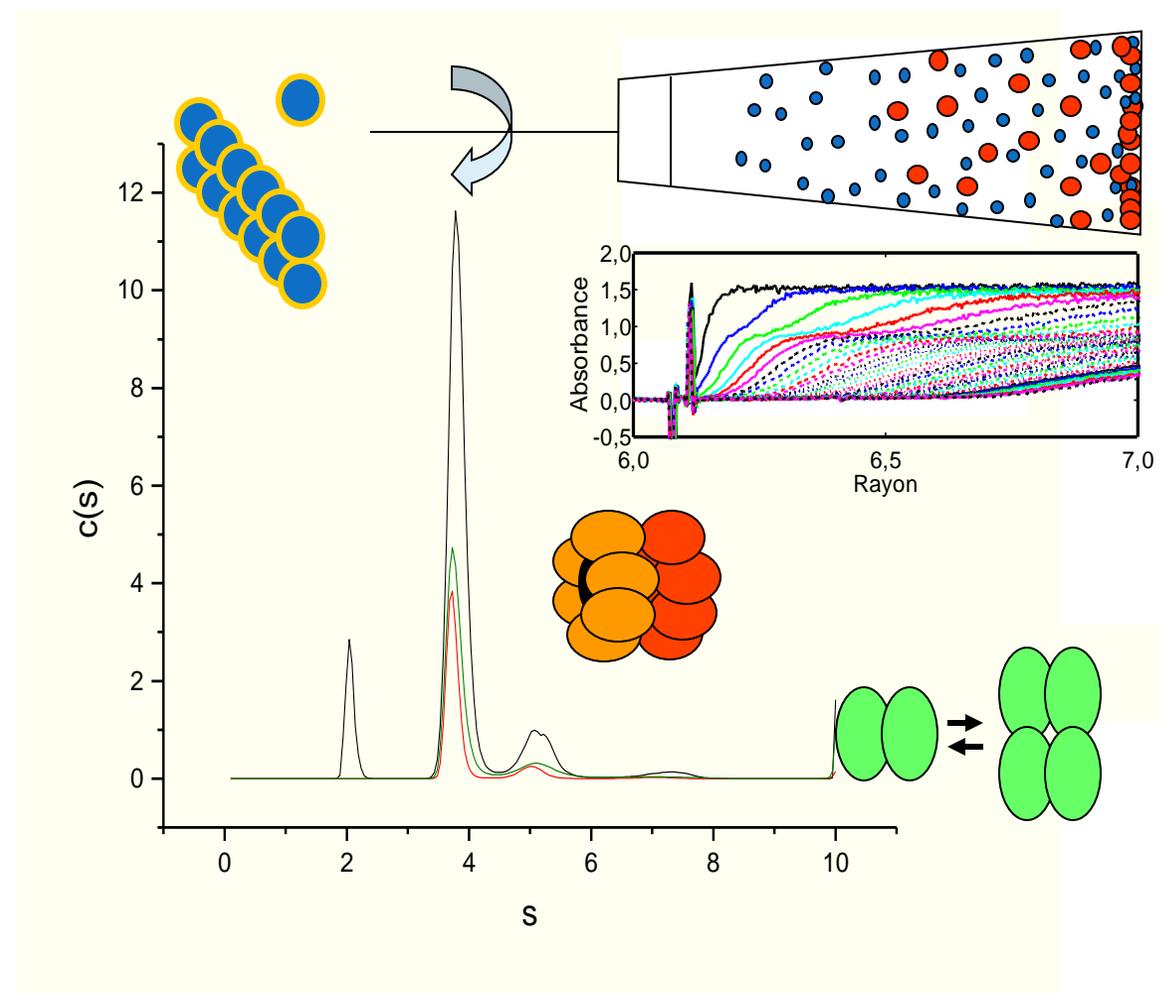
It allows deconvoluting boundary spreading for a high resolution distribution of s .

From peak integration

- s value
- signal (Absorbance, interference fringe shift...) related to concentration

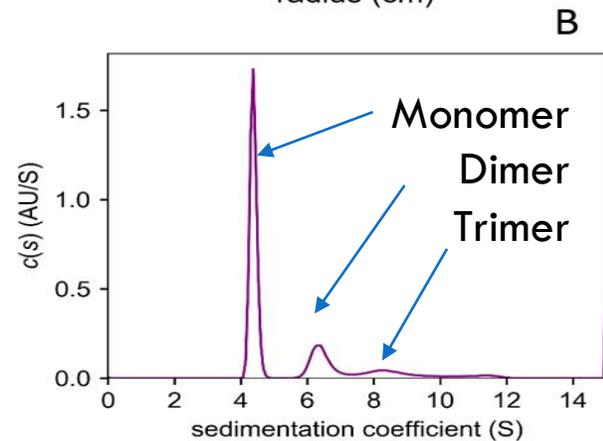
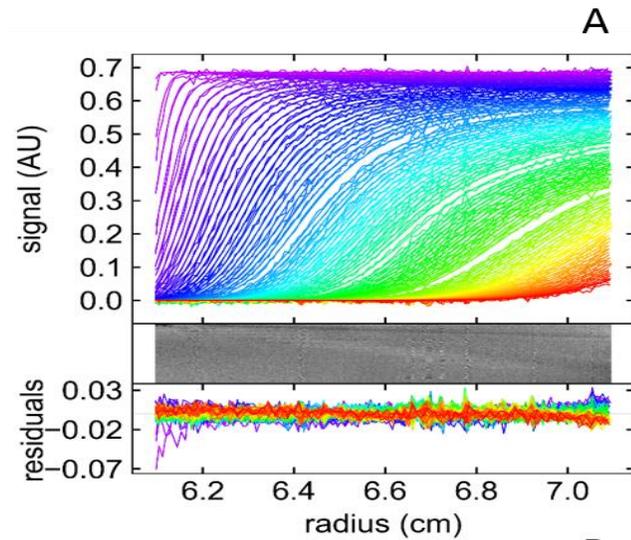
• **M can be determined** for samples with non-interacting species, from the analysis of the whole SV-profiles, where s and D are determined independently

• **Numerical simulation** can describe complex interacting systems

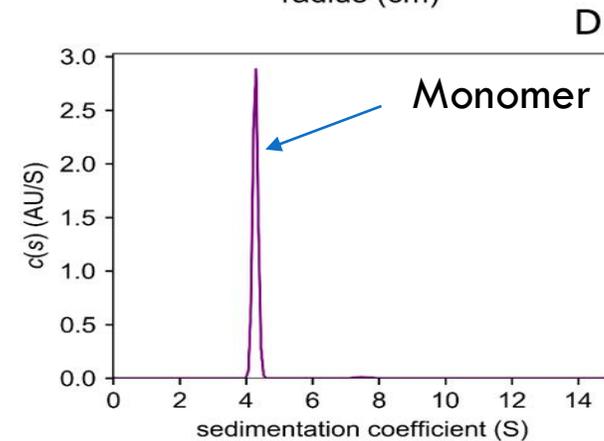
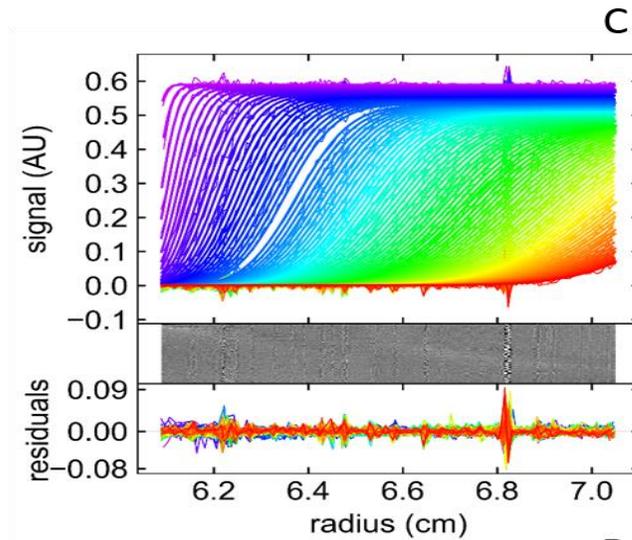


BSA SV-AUC Sample homogeneity

Lyophilized BSA



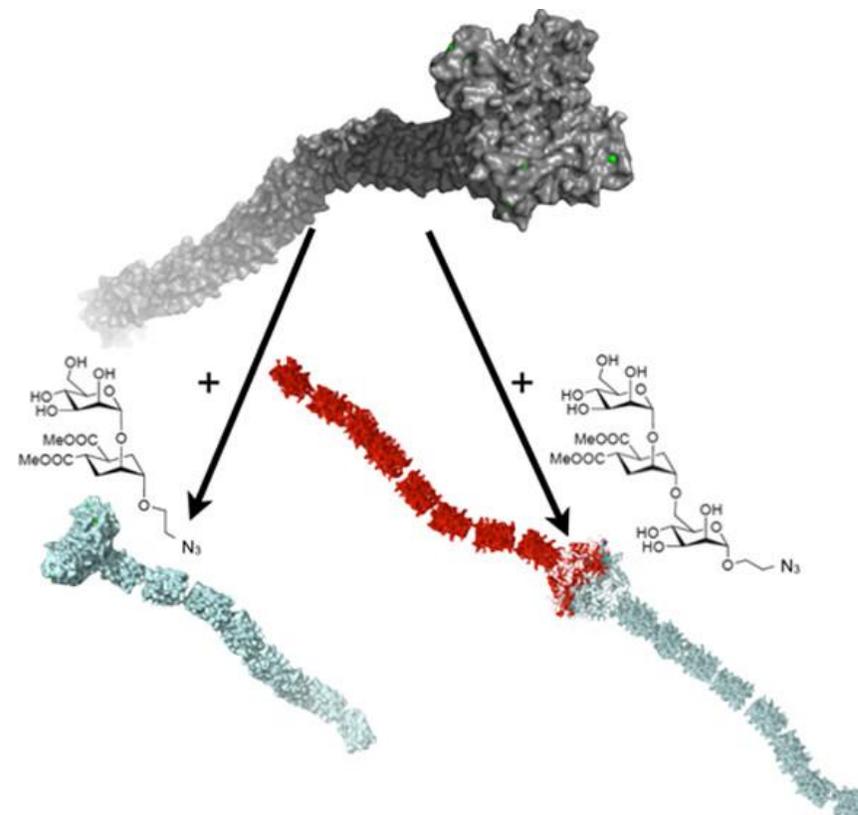
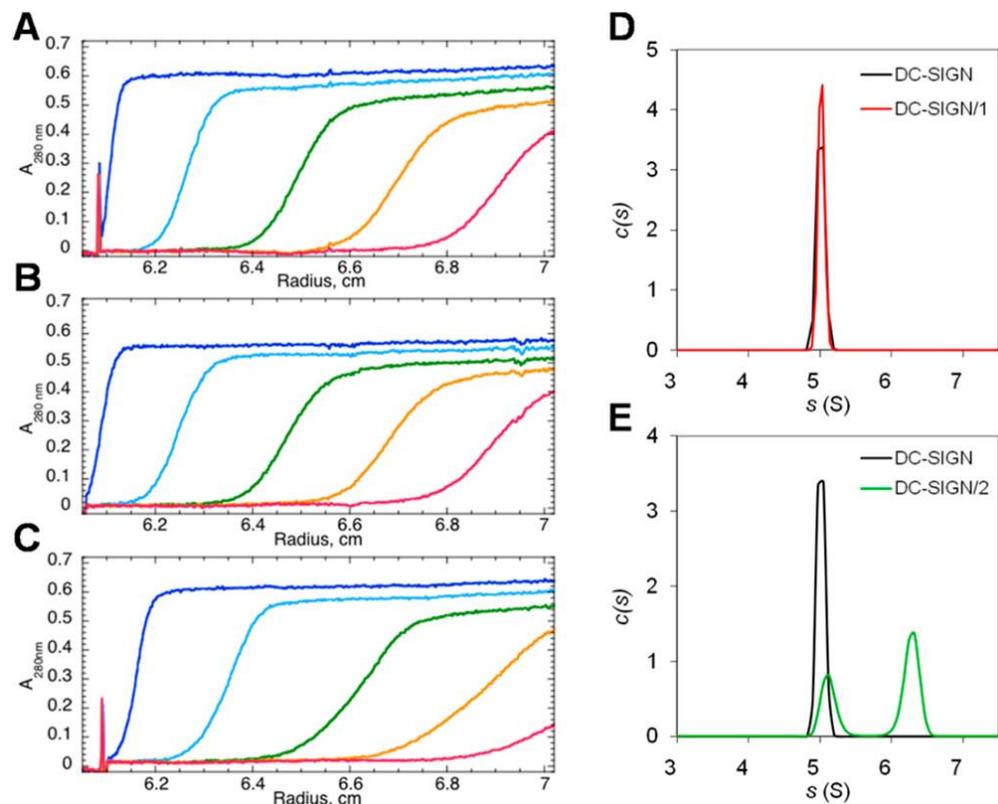
After purification of the monomer
with size exclusion chromatography



$M = 65.9$ kDa (theo: 65.5kDa)
 $s = 4.3$ S
Rmsd = 0.009

*Aline Le Roy &
Christine Ebel*

DC-SIGN -drug designed glycomimetic compound interactions



From ITC; AUC, DLS: molecule #2 is able, without any multivalent presentation, to cluster DC-SIGN tetramers.

Small Angle X-ray Scattering - SAXS

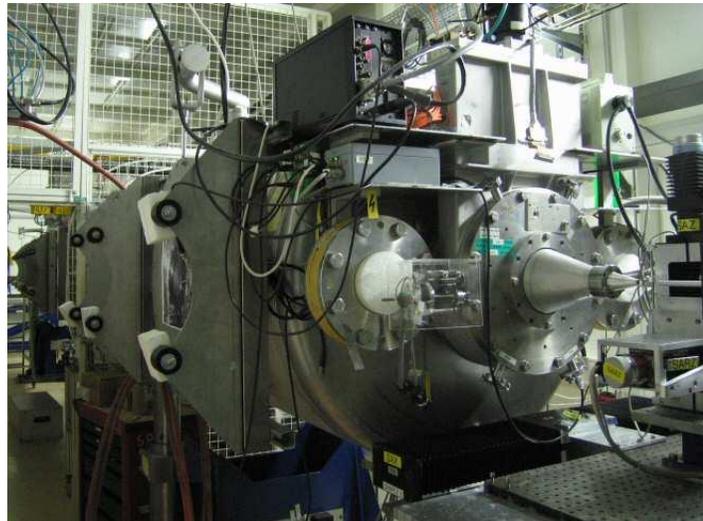
Small angle scattering

D22, ILL



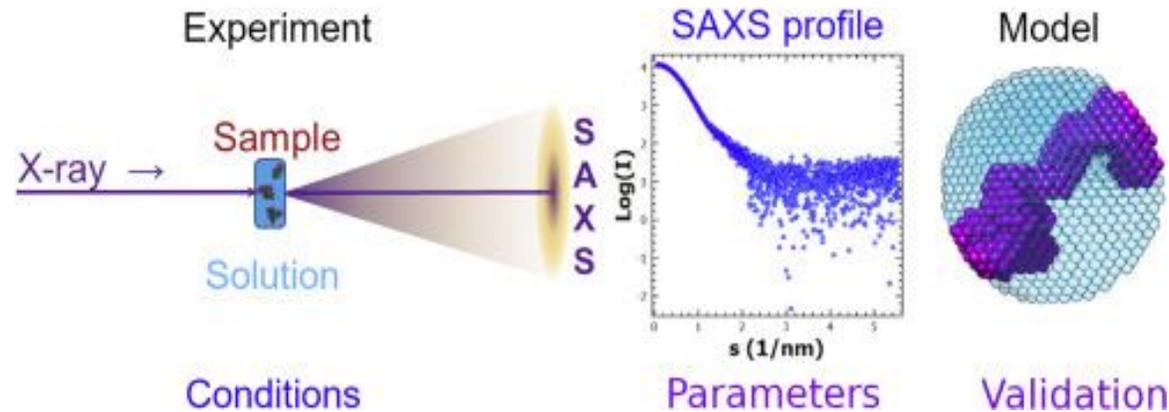
**Small angle
neutron
scattering**

**ID02, ESRF
BM29 BioSAXS**



**Small angle X-
rays scattering**

SAXS data for structural information



The scattering is typically isotropic and a radial averaging of the 2D scattering pattern yields a 1D intensity curve

The signal comes from macromolecules themselves but also from the buffer

The subtracted SAXS profile yields the intensity from the macromolecules as a function of the scattering angle

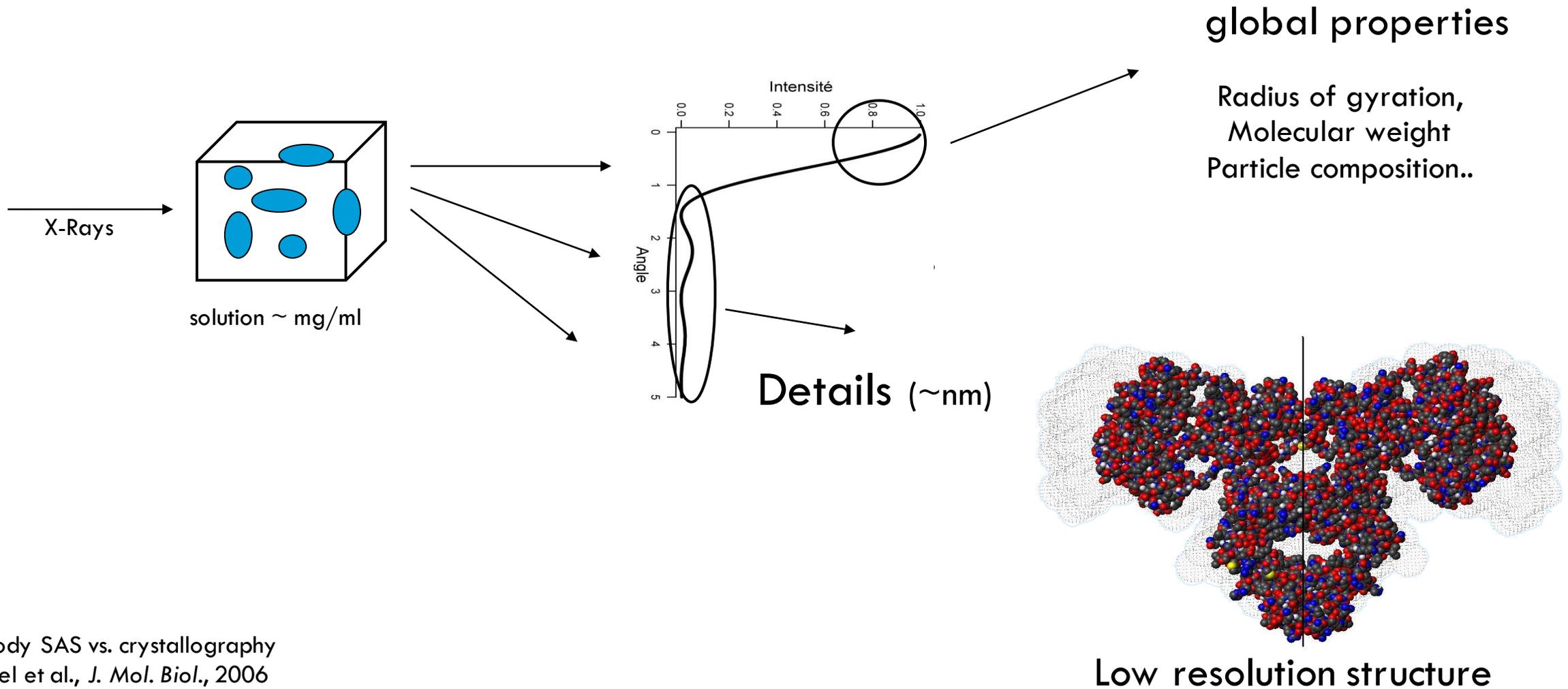
The scattered intensity is a reflection of the structure of the macromolecule of interest for dilute solutions, if contributions from aggregates, self-association or positional correlations between different molecules are neglectable

Requirements

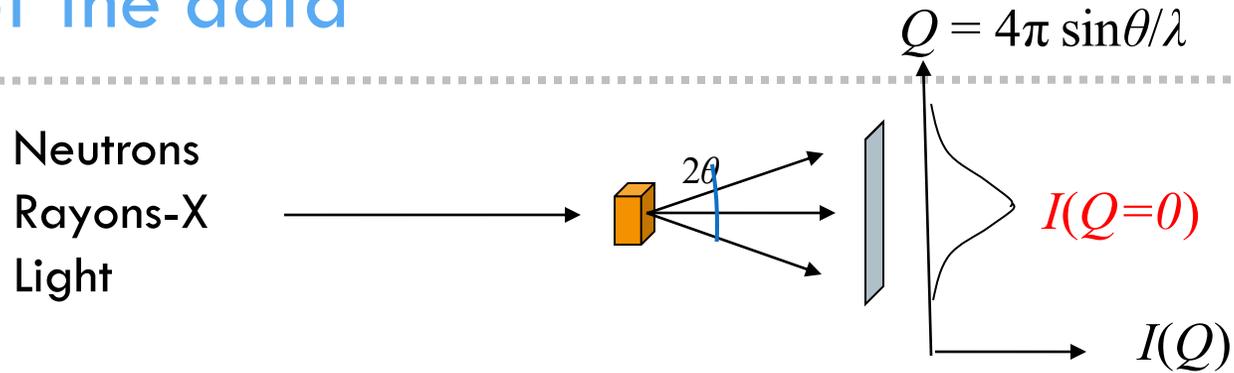
- monodisperse sample in solution
- There should be no correlation between particle positions and orientations
- $c=1-10$ mg/mL
- The scattered intensity depends on a contrast term between the particle and the solvent.
- Buffer signal will be subtracted



SAXS data for structural information



Analysis of the data



For a dilute homogeneous solution

Forward intensity $I(0) = n \cdot F(0)^2$

Neutrons $I(0)/c = 1/N_A \cdot M (\partial\rho_N/\partial c)^2$

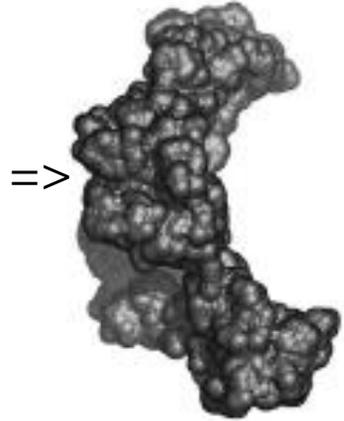
X-Rays $I(0)/c = 1/N_A \cdot M (\partial\rho_{el}/\partial c)^2$

Light $I(0)/c = 1/N_A \cdot M (\partial n/\partial c)^2$

Extrapolated $I(0)$
 molar mass via a contrast term
 that also determines the whole $I(Q)$

$I(Q)$ changes at small angle
 \Rightarrow Radius of gyration

Whole $I(q)$
 \Rightarrow Ensemble of the distances
 within the particle $P(r)$



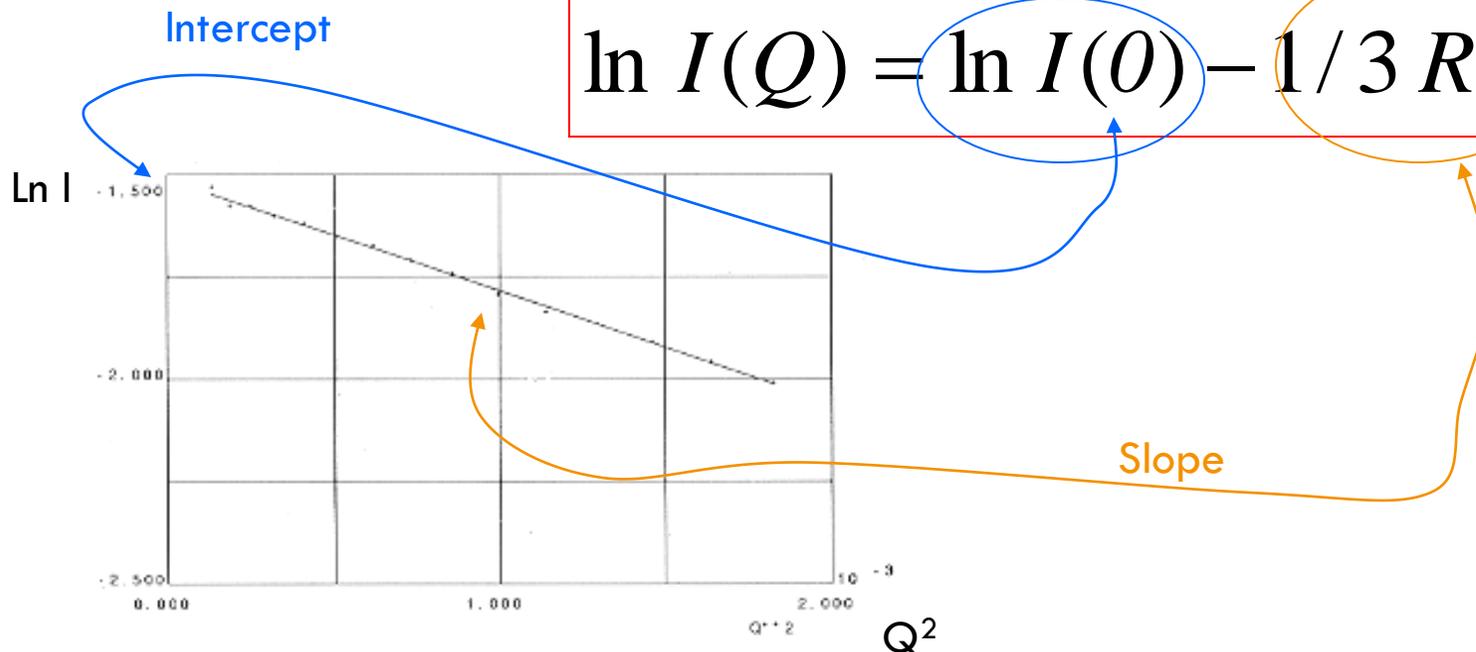
$I(0)$: normalized forward intensity.
 c: weight concentration.
 ρ_N and ρ_{el} : neutron and electron scattering length density increments.
 n, refractive index

From the scattering curve to structural informations

Small* Q -range: the Guinier approximation

$$I(Q) = I(0) \exp -1/3 R_G^2 Q^2$$

$$\ln I(Q) = \ln I(0) - 1/3 R_G^2 Q^2$$



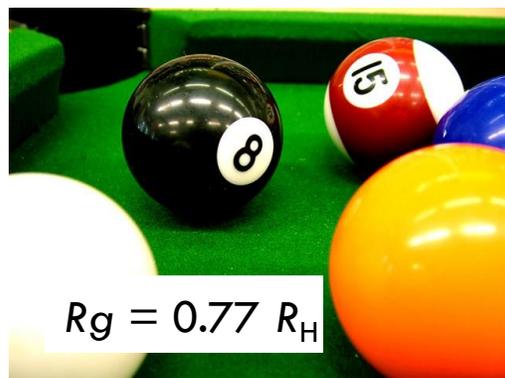
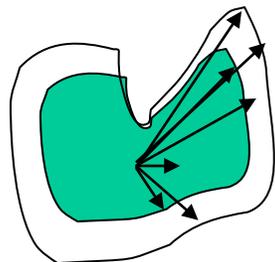
*: small??? such as $R_G Q \ll 1$ in principle and for spheres;
 $R_G Q < 1.3$ for globular non spherical particles.

R_g from scattering

R_g tells about mass distribution around center-of-gravity (inertia)

R_g will tell about conformation changes

R_g is ponderated by scattering length density contrast



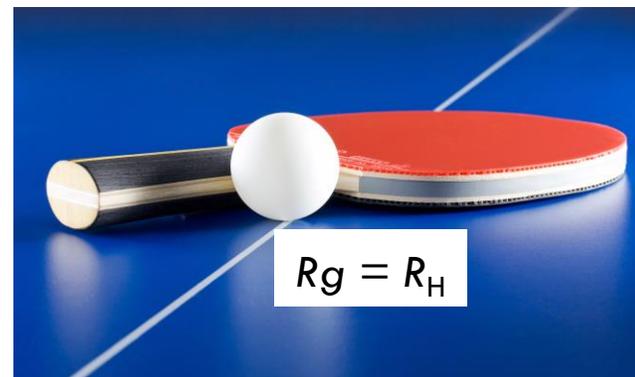
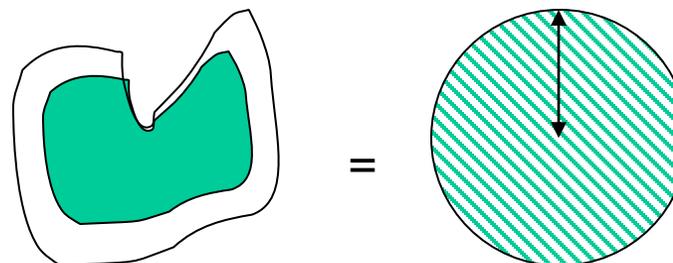
R_g differs slightly in SANS in D_2O and H_2O , and in SAXS, because it probes hydration

$$R_g^2 = \int r^2 g(r) dr$$

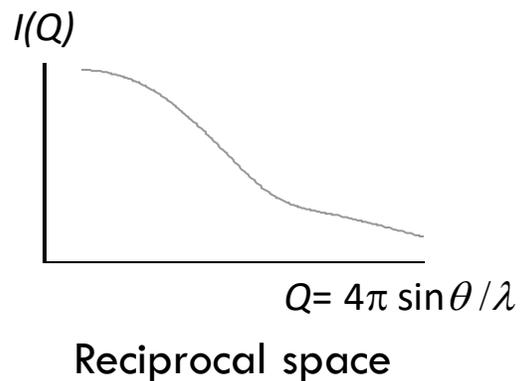
$g(r)$: pair distance function

R_H from hydrodynamics

R_H probes distances to the surface (approximately)



Pair distance distribution - $p(r)$ from the whole scattering curve



F.T.⁻¹

Fourier Transform

$p(r)$
Pair distribution function

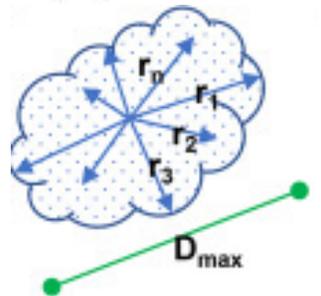
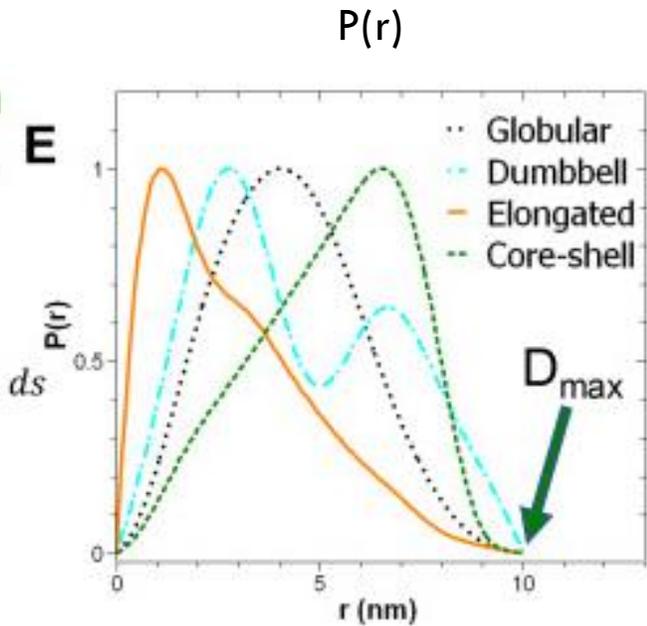
Real space

Pair distance distribution

Real-space transformation of the data, conveys information on **shape** and **size** of the macromolecule

$$P(r) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty I(s) \cdot sr \cdot \sin(sr) ds$$

$P(r)$ related to the probability of finding two points at distance r within the macromolecule

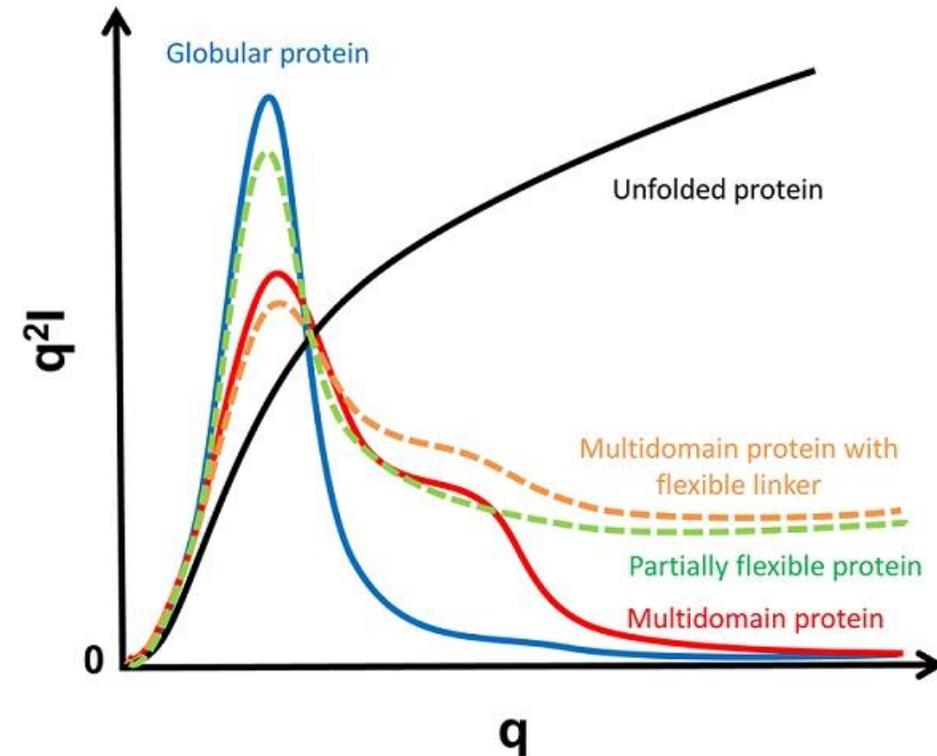


The Kratky plot

Considering larger angles

Kratky plot identifies unfolded samples:

- **Globular macromolecules** follow Porod's law have a bell shape curve
- Extended molecules, as such unfolded proteins, lack this peak and have a plateau or are slightly increasing in the larger q range



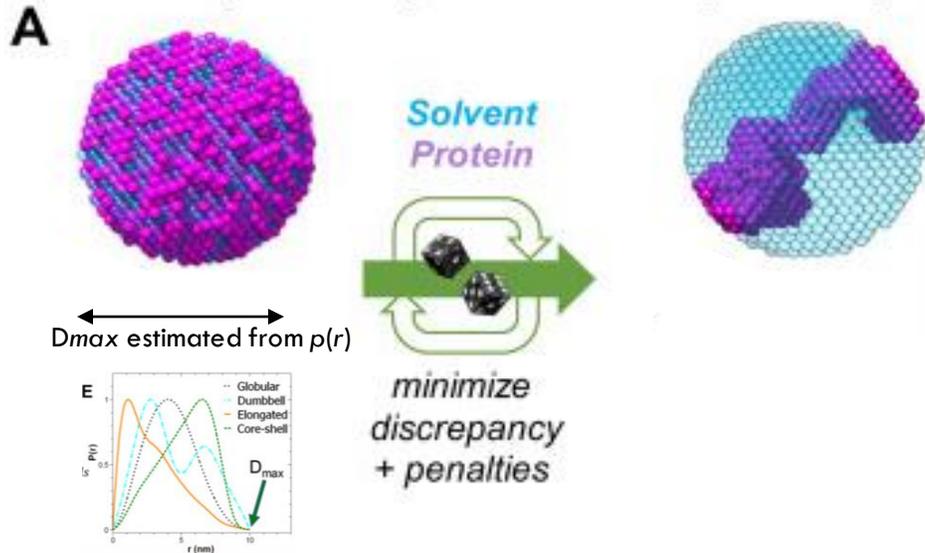
Schematic representation of typical Kratky plots. Curvature is depending on molecular shape, degree of flexibility, etc...

Modeling and fitting

Ab-initio Methods

Ab-initio methods

- Dummy atoms (two or more „phases“)



The protein structure is represented beads
Each bead: particle or solvent.

Diameter = max. particle size

The macromolecule is an ensemble of packed beads (dummy atoms)

An iterative simulated annealing algorithm changes the configuration of the beads which includes the discrepancy to the SAXS data as well as structural constraints to ensure a physically plausible solution

Search of the best structure fitting $I(Q)$

Da Vela S, Svergun DI.

Methods, development and applications of small-angle X-ray scattering to characterize biological macromolecules in solution.

Curr Res Struct Biol. 2020 Aug

Combining structures of domains, with SAXS, SANS AUC & molecular modeling to propose full antibody structures

Structure determinations of human and chimaeric antibodies by solution scattering and constrained molecular modelling

Stephen J. Perkins¹ and Alexandra Bonner

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Darwin Building, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BI, U.K.

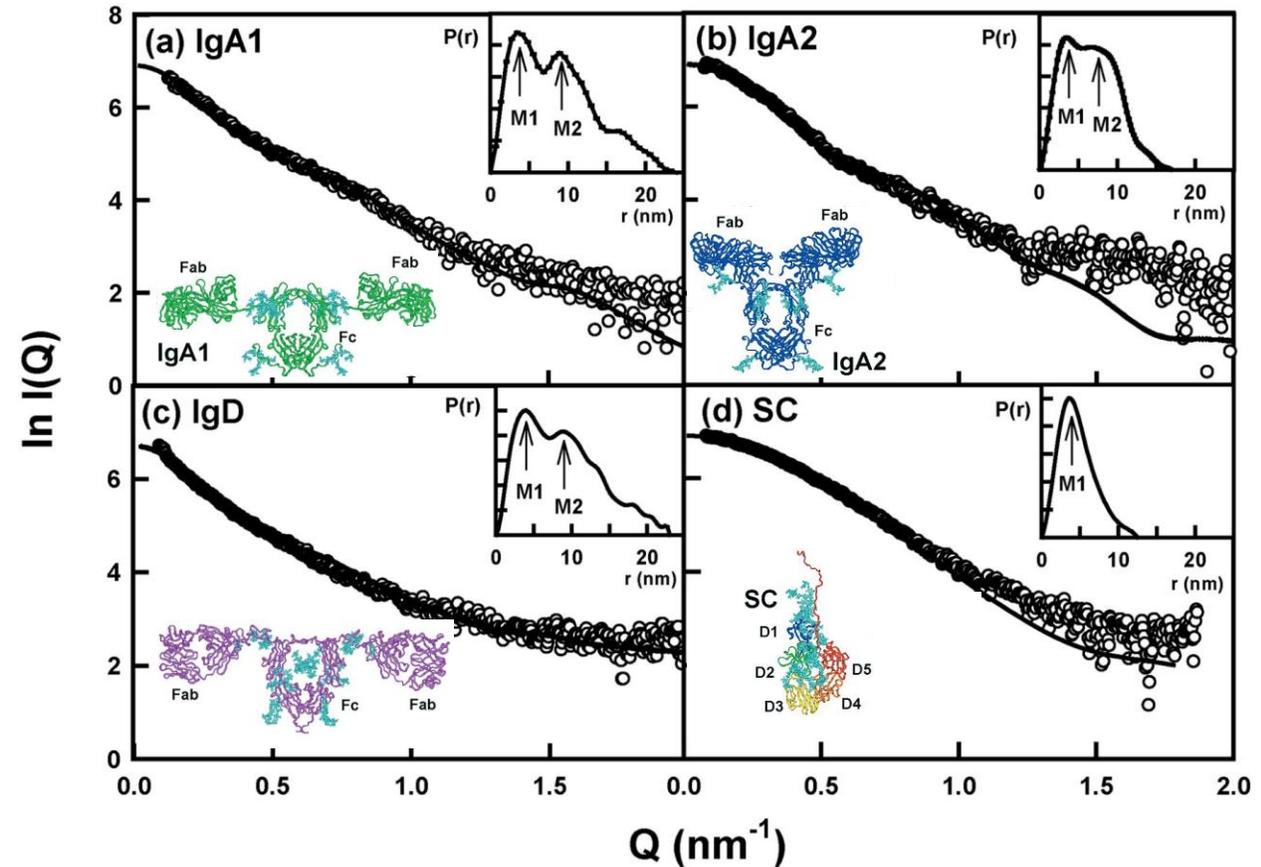
Biochemical Society Transactions (2008)

“The prerequisite is a full starting co-ordinate model, including all carbohydrate chains if present.

The three major constraints are:

- the known sequence and composition to fix the macromolecular volume
- the use of relevant homologous crystal or NMR structures or good homology models to fix the domain shapes
- the known covalent peptide linkers between the subunits to limit the structures allowed”

- Different conformations of the proteins are derived from the linkers.
- Molecular Dynamics then randomizes this to generate libraries of 500–10000 conformers.
- Comparison with exp. data



MASS PHOTOMETRY

Mass Photometry - Principle

Mass Photometry is a **label free single-molecule** technique based on optical detection of the **scattering signal generated by a single particule at glass-water interface**

Measures the **mass of individual molecules** and thereby determines **mass distributions of biomolecule samples in solution**



Mass Photometry - Principle

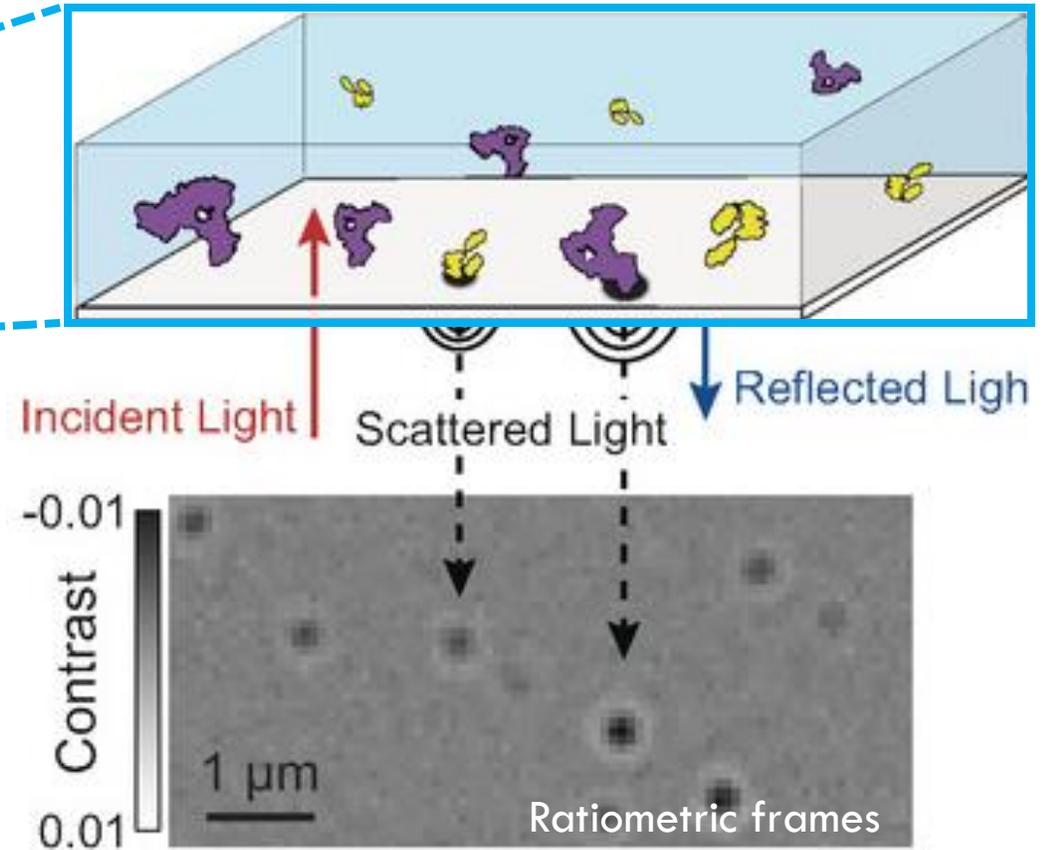
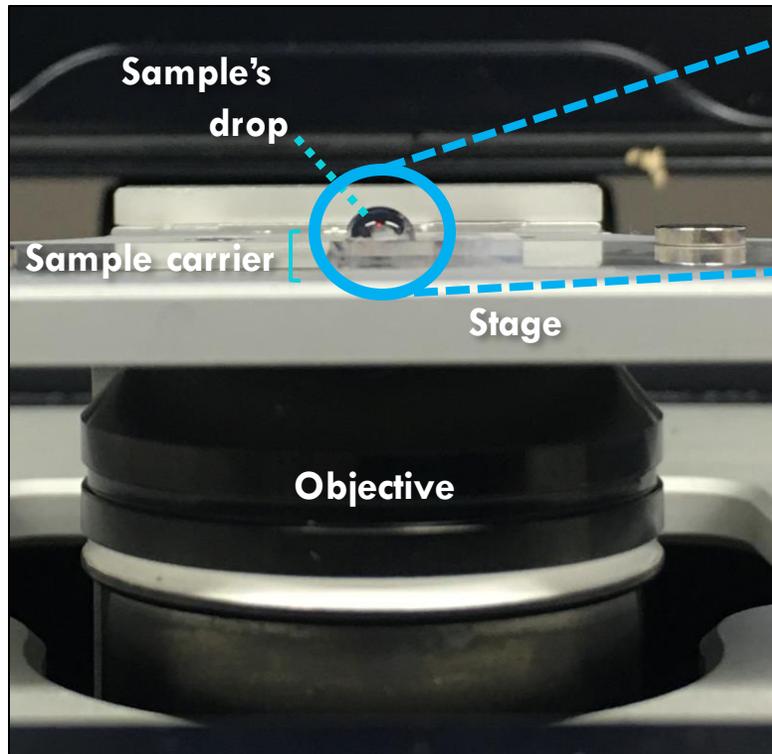
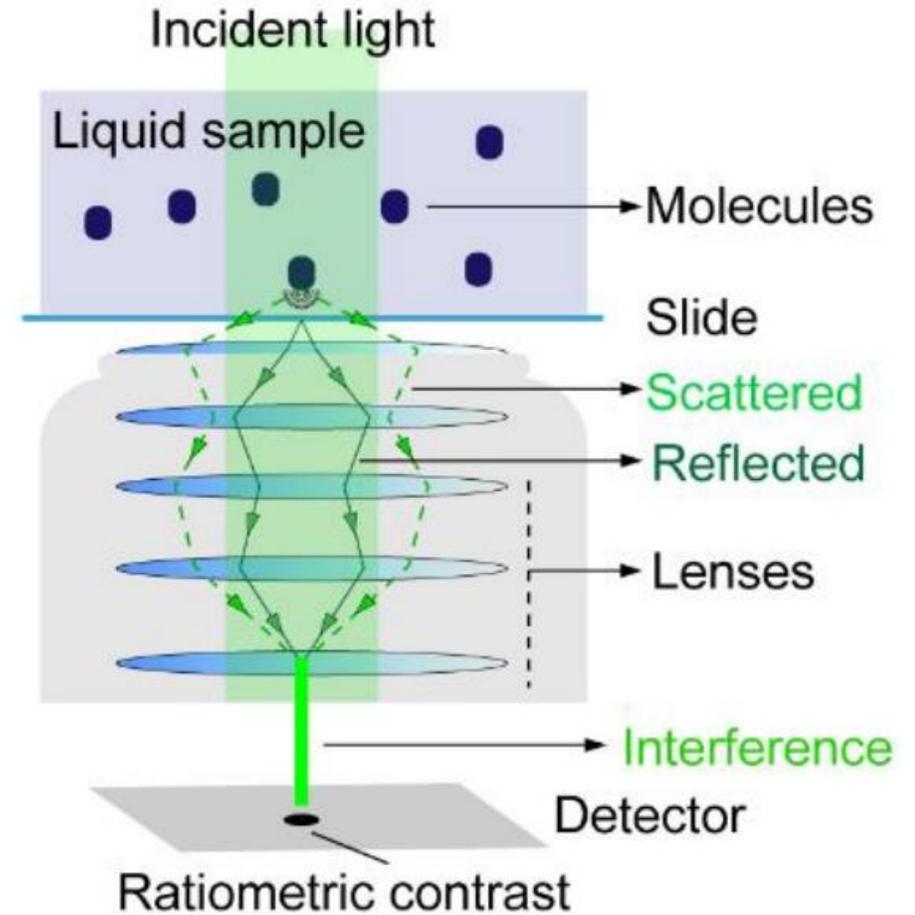
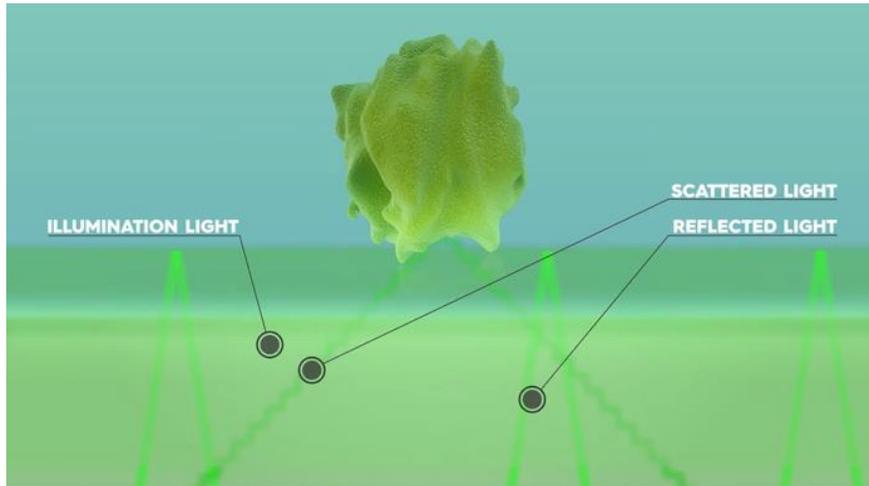


Image the coverslip to record a movie of the landings of macromolecules

Mass Photometry – Principle

Interferometric scattering iSCAT

coverslip



Mass Photometry – Principle

Interferometric scattering iSCAT

Interferometric scattering (iSCAT) microscope collects light that is reflected at the interface between a glass coverslip and an aqueous solution along with light scattered by objects at that interface

The detected light intensity is a combination of the two interfering electric fields of reflected and scattered light that can be described by

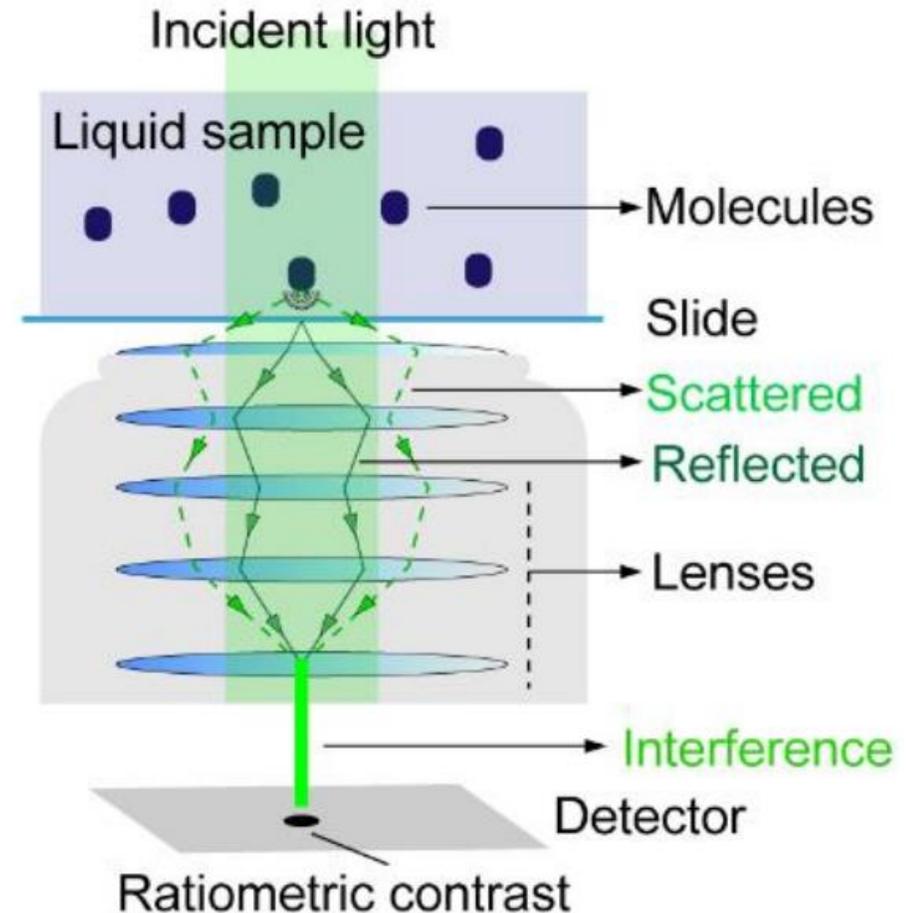
$$I_{\text{det}} = I_{\text{inc}}(r^2 + |s|^2 + 2r|s| \cos \varphi)$$

I_{inc} is the incident light intensity used for illumination

r^2 is the reflectivity of the interface

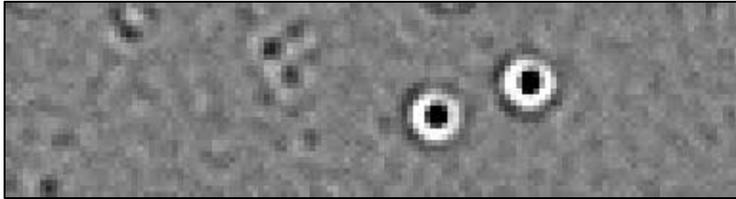
$|s|^2$ is the scattering cross section

φ the phase difference between reflected and scattered light

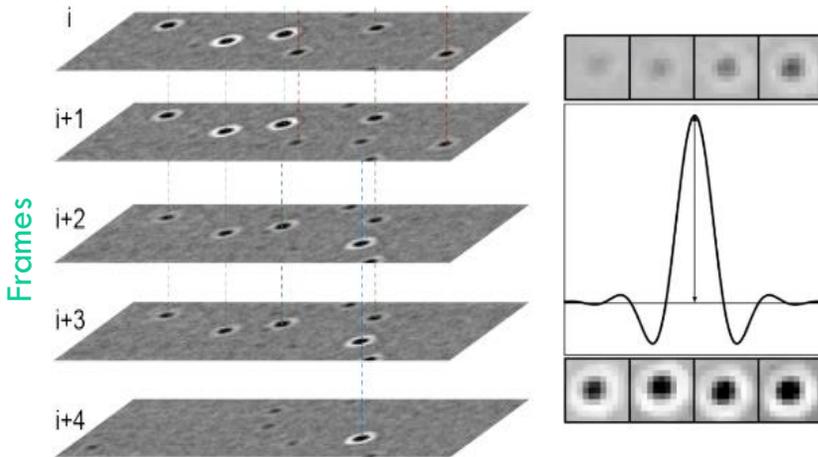


Mass Photometry - Principle

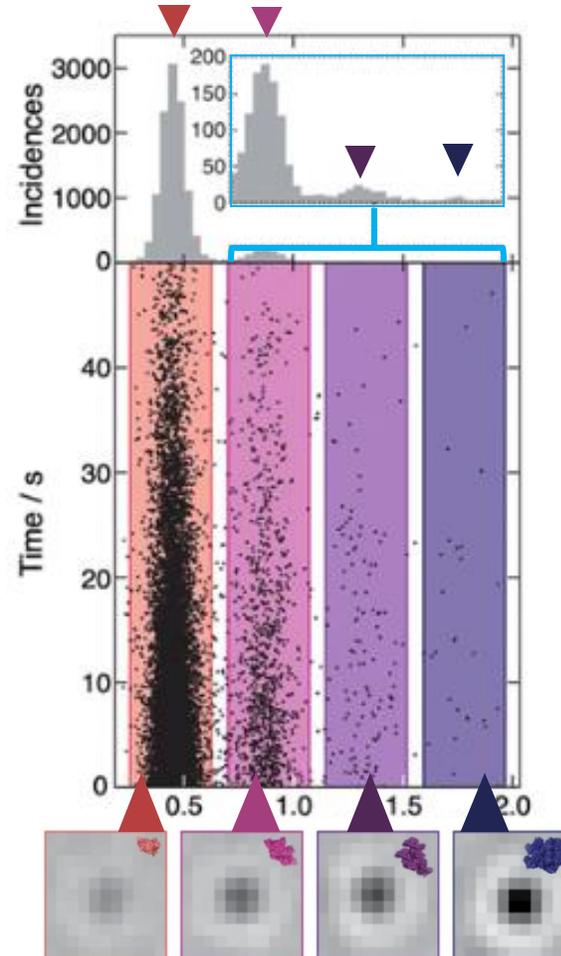
1 - Movie recording



Movie of particles landing on the coverslip



2 - Contrast / Mass



Contrast of various oligomeric states

3 - Sample's requirement

- Few μL at $\sim 100\text{-}10\text{ nM}$
- 40 kDa - 5 MDa

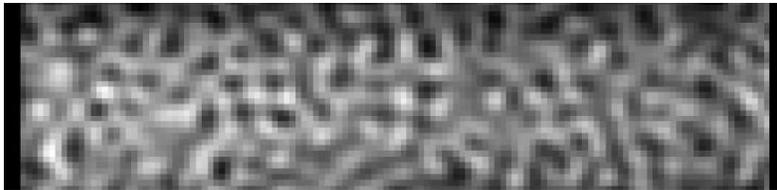
4 - Applications

- Protein
- Unfolded protein
- RNA / DNA
- Membrane proteins
- Adeno-associated virus
- Interactions

Native Image vs Ratiometric

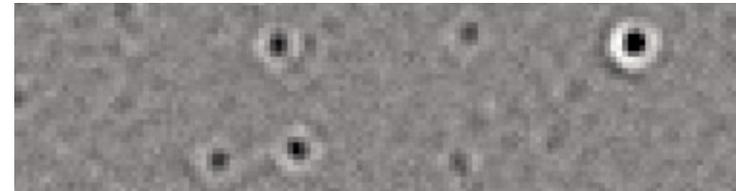
Native

Raw image of the coverslip

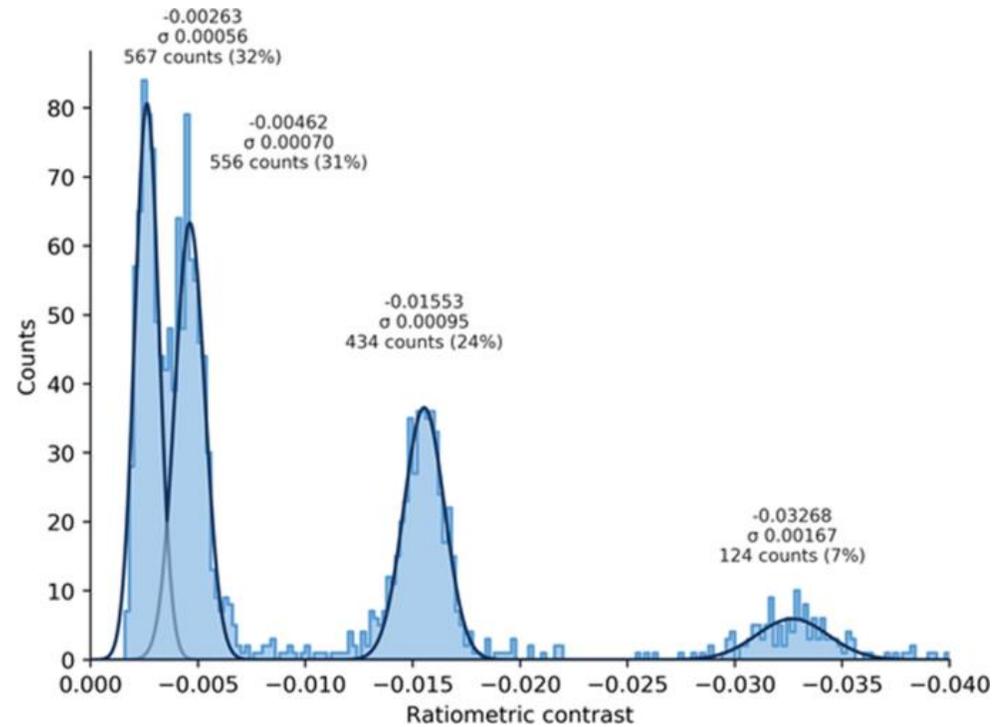
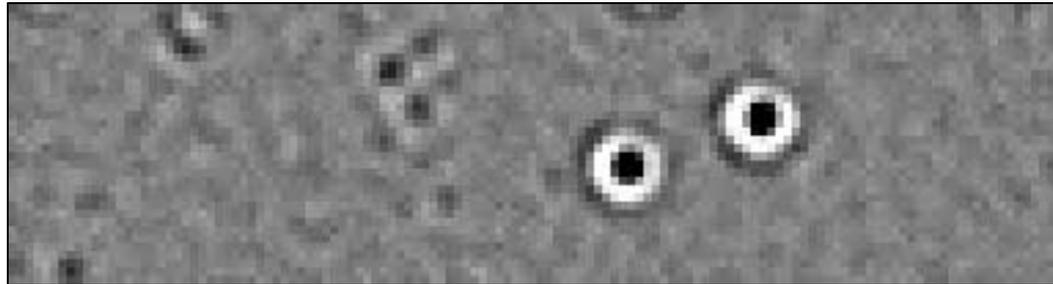


Ratiometric

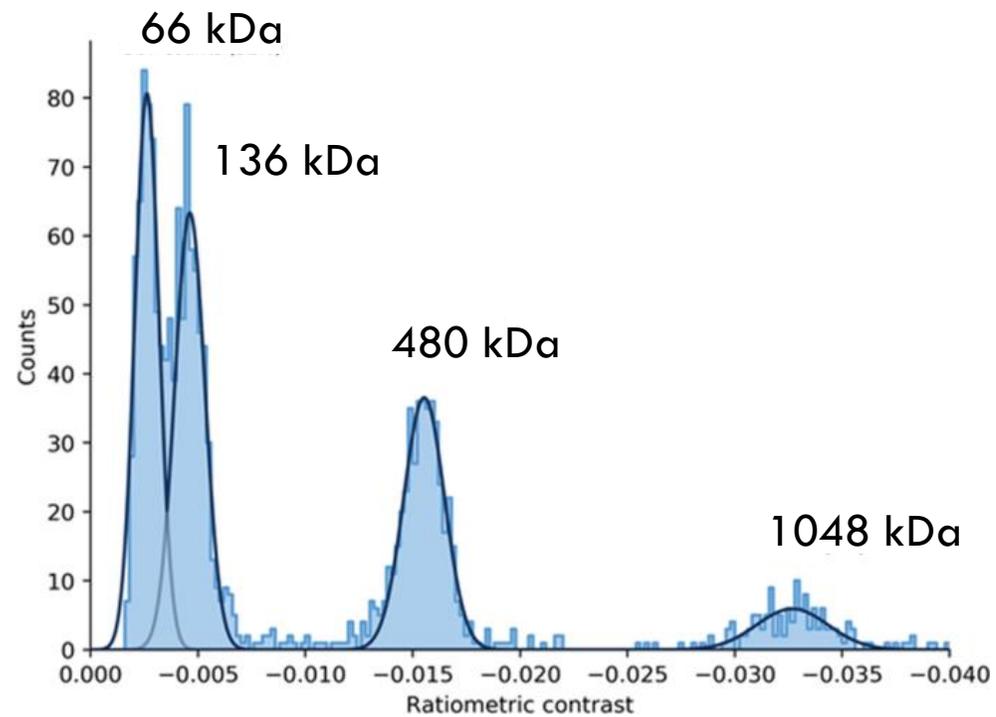
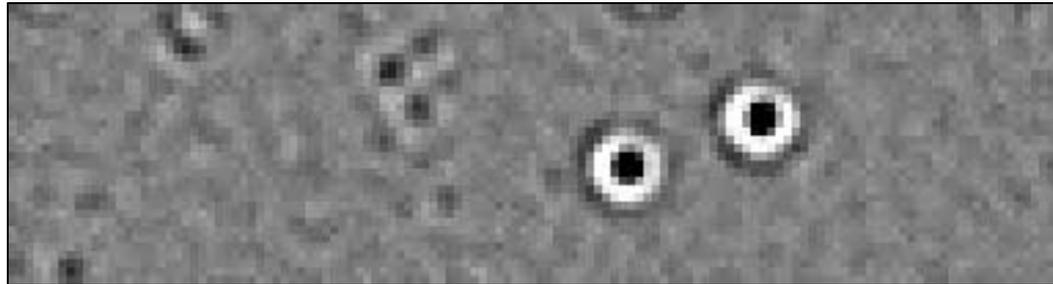
Processed raw images



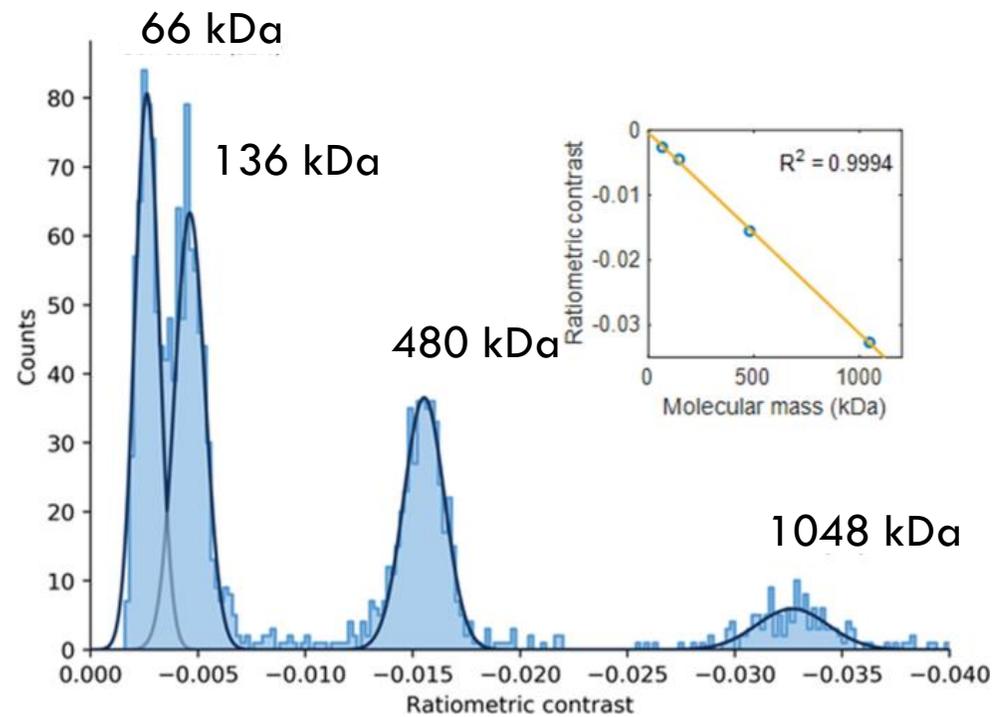
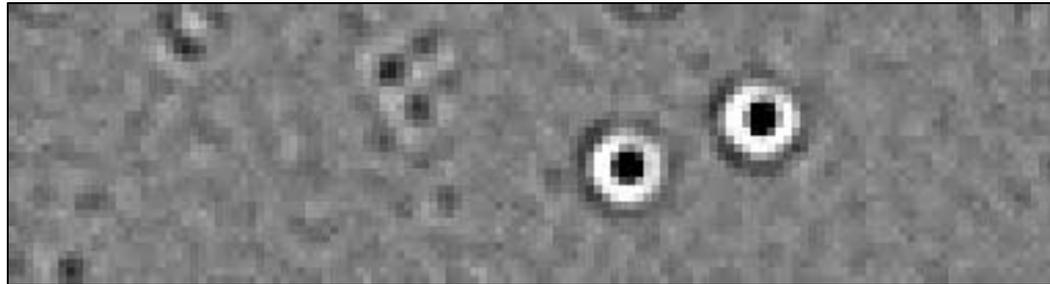
Mass Photometry Movie and Histogram



Mass Photometry Movie and Histogram



Mass Photometry Movie and Histogram



Example 1

communications biology

ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s42003-022-03276-1>

OPEN



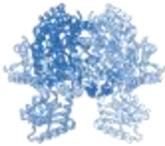
Structural and biochemical characterisation of the *Providencia stuartii* arginine decarboxylase shows distinct polymerisation and regulation

Matthew Jessop^{1,2}, Karine Huard¹, Ambroise Desfosses¹, Guillaume Tetreau¹, Diego Carriel¹, Maria Bacia-Verloop¹, Caroline Mas¹, Philippe Mas¹, Angélique Fraudeau¹, Jacques-Philippe Colletier¹ & Irina Gutsche^{1✉}

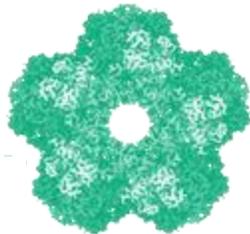
Monomer



Dimer

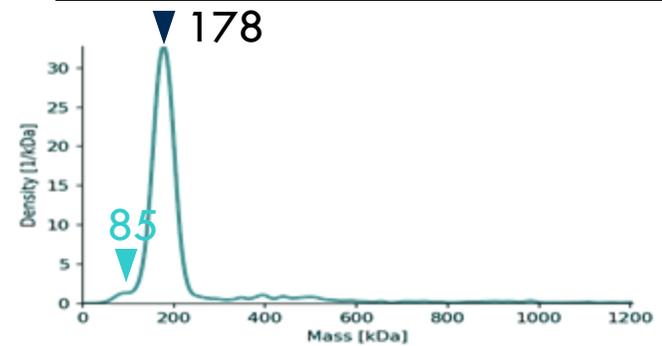


Decamer

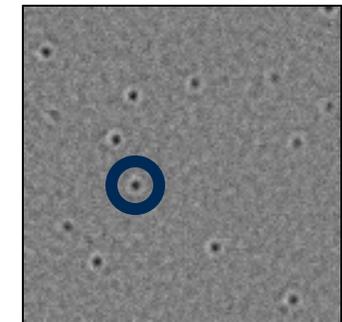


Jessop M et al, Comm Biol 2022

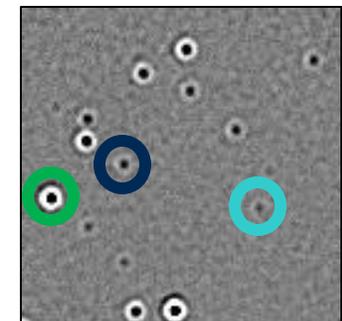
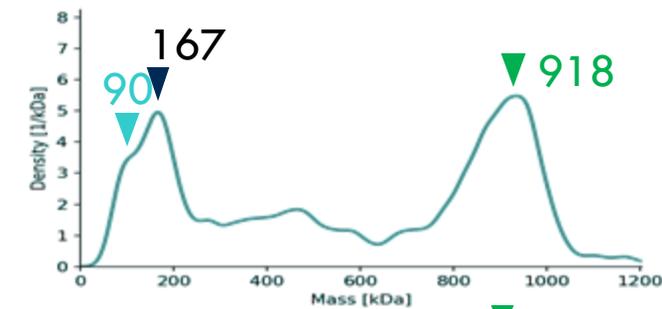
Mass distribution



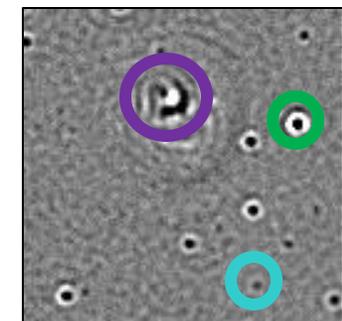
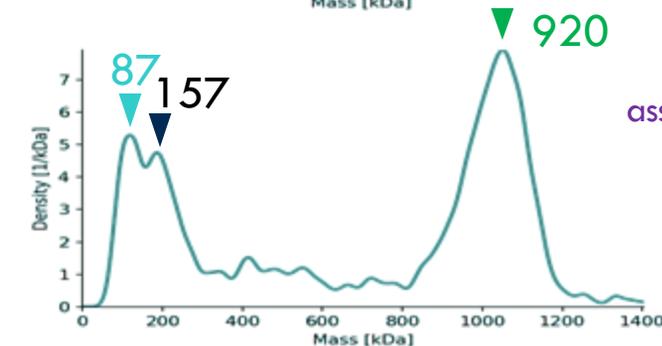
Ratiometric Frame



pH8



pH6.5



pH5

Example 2

Cell Reports



Article

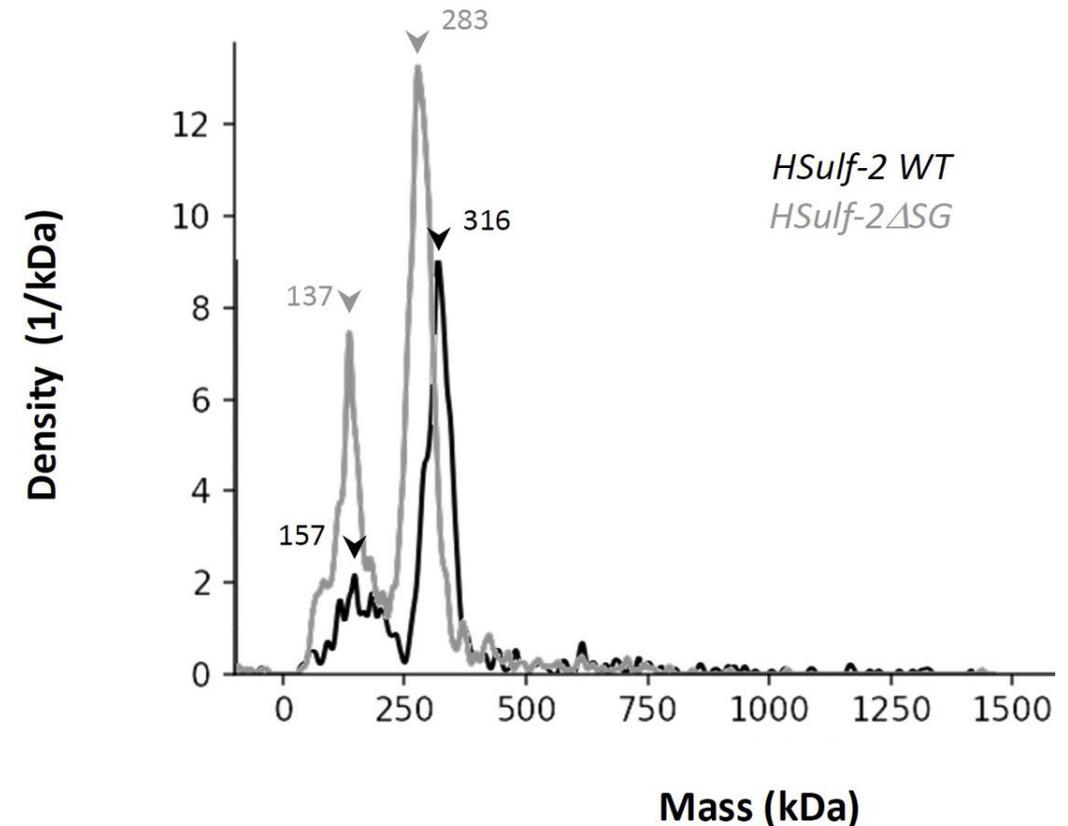
Extracellular endosulfatase Sulf-2 harbors a chondroitin/dermatan sulfate chain that modulates its enzyme activity

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Human Sulfs are extracellular endosulfatases that catalyzed the specific 6-O-desulfation of cell-surface and extracellular matrix heparan sulfate (HS)

Mass Photometry analysis

- HSulf-2 Δ SG : 137 kDa and 283 kDa
 - HSulf-2 WT : 157 kDa and 316 kDa
- > monomeric and dimeric forms for HSulf-2 harboring a ~20 kDa GAG chain.



Questions?

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