Structure and Formation of Antigen-Antibody Complexes

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Immunoglobulin G

- Type of antibody found in human circulation
- Protects body from infection by targeting and binding to antigens
- Different subclasses
 - lgG1, lgG2, lgG3, lgG4
 - Differ in number of disulfide bonds



Streptavidin

- A protein produced by the bacterium Streptomyces avidinii
- Tetrameric
- Extremely high affinity for biotin





Motivation



- Structure of antigen-antibody complexes is important for understanding how they form and their effect in the immune system
 - Goal: to analyze how two subclasses of immunoglobulin G, IgG1 and IgG2, interact with the protein streptavidin and determine the structure of complexes
- A software framework developed at the NCNR lacks experimental data for its docking module
 - Goal: to provide substantial data & results to improve functionality







Size-exclusion chromatography with multiangle light scattering (SEC-MALS)

- Varying concentration ratios, pH to evaluate best conditions for complex formation
- Series of buffer exchanges







Obtain a "pure and monodisperse" complex





Streptavidin-IgG1 Complex Samples

Streptavidin-IgG2 Complex Samples



pH 6.5 buffer





Effects of Different pH



Conclusions from SEC-MALS

- Higher percentage of complex forms in a buffer with a more neutral pH
- 1.0 and 2.0 concentration ratios (strep:IgG) yield most complex
- Aggregation of IgG2 occurs in a more acidic environment



SAXS Profile



- Larger molecules scatter more at low intensity (q)
- Complex with 1:1 concentration ratio scatters more than 2:1 complex



Future Work

Performing more small-angle scattering

Testing SASSIE Docking Module

 Software framework designed to create atomistic models of molecular systems and to compare small-angle scattering data from these models directly to experimental data



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