

#### Thomas Schlathölter

Zernike Institute for Advanced Materials, University of Groningen,

Nijenborgh 4, 9747AG Groningen, The Netherlands



university of groningen

faculty of mathematics and natural sciences

zernike institute for advanced materials



### this talk



### 1. motivation

- 2. experimental
- 3. mass spectra and soft X-ray spectra
  - leucine enkephalin as a typical system
- 4. the role of protein size
  - from small peptides to larger proteins
- 5. secondary structure
  - soft X-ray spectroscopy and gas-phase structure
- 6. soft X-ray photoionization of oligonucleotides

### why energetic ions & photons?

# university of groningen

#### driving forces:

- molecular movies of protein dynamics with atomic resolution at X-ray free electron lasers
- mass spectrometry
  - CID, multiphoton IR dissociation: slow heating and scission of weak bonds
  - UV photoionization: dissociation via excited states
  - keV ion and soft X-ray photoionization: fs deposition of > 10 eV
- site sensitivity, electronic structure sensitivity geometric structure sensitivity?
- biological radiation damage

#### key questions

- is soft X-ray or ion induced fragmentation proceeding via IC/IVR or is it fast and localized?
- how are excitations and charges migrating through the system?
- is soft X-ray absorption spectroscopy sensitive to gas-phase protein structure?

### the Groningen RF ion trap

/ university of groningen



high fluence electrospray source (>100 pA mass selected protonated peptides)

- pulsed operation (ion accumulation within RF 8-pole, transfer to 3D RF-trap)
- exposure of trap content to photon beam
- TOF mass spectrometry of trap content







core excitation followed by Auger ionization → mainly single ionization

core ionization followed by Auger ionization → mainly double ionization

resulting excitation energy distribution is broad around ~20 eV





O. González-Magaña, G. Reitsma, M. Tiemens, L. Boschman, R. Hoekstra, and T. Schlathölter, JPCA 116 (2012) 10745

### and for keV ions ...









### and for keV ions ...







similar fragmentation pattern

 same dependence on excitation energy

### peptide fragmentation











photofragment yield can be recorded as function of photon energy

O. González-Magaña, G. Reitsma, M. Tiemens, L. Boschman, R. Hoekstra, and T. Schlathölter, JPCA 116 (2012) 10745







partial ion yield spectroscopy leu-enk (YGGFL) m/z=120 (F) BESSY II, Germany

O. González-Magaña et al., JPCA 116 (2012) 10745

partial ion yield spectroscopy cytochrome C, 105 amino acids M=11833 non-diss. single/double ioniziation SOLEIL, France

A. R. Milosavljević et al., JPCL 3 (2012) 1191

high quality data for smaller biomolecules – for instance from K. Prince's group - and for thin films







A: C(1s)- $\pi^*$  transitions in the aromatic F and Y sidechains

**B**: C(1s)- $\pi^*_{C=O}$  amide group transitions – NO specificity **C**: C(1s)- $\sigma^*$  transitions, Rydberg transitions, ionization

A and B deexcite non-radiatively by Auger processes C (ionization part) followed by Auger de-excitation ionization — double ionization

YGGFL





immonium ions and small sequence ions





immonium ions and small sequence ions

YGGGGGGGGGGF





immonium ions and larger sequence ions

VGALAVVVWLWLWLW







immonium ions, larger sequence ions and non-dissociative ionization

GIGAVLKVLTTGLPALISWIKRKRQ



university of groningen



immonium ions, larger sequence ions and non-dissociative ionization

GIVEQCCTSICSLYQLENYCN-FVNQHLCGSHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKT







MQIFVKTLTGKTITLEVEPSDTIENVKAKIQDKEGIPPDQQRLIFAGKQLEDGRTLSDYNIQKESTLHLVLRLRGG





immonium ions, non-dissociative ionization, neutral losses

MGDVEKGKKIFVQKCAQCHTVEKGGKHKTGPNLHGLFGRKTGQAPGFTYTDANKNKGITWKEETLMEYLE NPKKYIPGTKMIFAGIKKKT EREDLIAYLKKATNE + heme





core ionization of gas-phase glycine @ LCLS – AMO

from the Auger spectrum, typical exciation energies can be obtained

A. Sanchez-Gonzalez, et al., J. Phys. B.: At. Mol. Opt. Phys, 2015, 48, 234004



assume deposition of 18.5 eV in the different systems



K. Vekey, J. Mass Spectr., 1996, **31**, 445-463

degrees of freedom temperature and frequency dependence

→ approximate T as a function of number of degrees of freedom (harmonic oscillator model)

 $c_{peptide}(T) = 5.61 \times 10^{-4} K^{-1} T - 1.24 \times 10^{-7} K^{-2} T^2$ 



#### fragmentation yield as a function of T



similar trend as for direct heating, CID, SID but onset at lower T

D. Egorov, L. Schwob, M. Lalande, R. Hoekstra, T. Schlathölter, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 18 (2016) 26213-26223



university of groningen

- excitation energy dissipates in large proteins
- even from the largest molecules, immonium ions can be formed
- IVR competes with fast local dissociation channels (repulsive states?)
- radiation damage in thin films (soft X-ray microscopy) might only be an issue for small peptides!

### back to melittin



university of groningen





### BESSY II @ Helmholtz Zentrum Berlin





linear trap geometry  $\rightarrow$  much larger capacity LHe cooling  $\rightarrow$  T~10K mass dependent transmission  $\rightarrow$  good for partial ion yield scans, bad for mass spectra

/ university of groningen

• resolution: similar as for gas-phase amino acids *Plekan et al., JPCA, 111 (2007) 10998* 

• problem: averaging over residues with slightly shifted peaks

• advantage:

T=10K

- $\rightarrow$  less thermal broadening
- $\rightarrow$  non-diss ionization stronger



university of groningen

gas phase structure: (melittin +2H)<sup>2+</sup>: helical (melittin +3H)<sup>3+</sup>: mainly helical (melittin +4H)<sup>4+</sup>: not helical (relaxation due to Coulomb repulsion)

H. V. Florance, A. P. Stopford, J. M. Kalapothakis, B. J. McCullough, A. Bretherick and P. E. Barran, Analyst, 2011, 136, 3446



### melittin – TD-DFT

sit

5

6

7

8

8'





#### hydrogen bonds induce out of plane distortion of the backbone

symmetries of the transition densities are broken

#### (too) small reduction in the transition dipoles

very sensitive to the structure

	Chain		α-helix			β-hairpin		
e	E (eV)	f <sub>os</sub>	E(eV)	f <sub>os</sub>	ratio	E(eV)	f <sub>os</sub>	ratio
	277.63	0.0589	277.48	0.0585	1.006	277.46	0.0583	1.010
	277.78	0.0608	277.48	0.0569	1.069	277.52	0.0575	1.058
	277.79	0.0606	277.48	0.0561	1.080	277.42	0.0586	1.034
	277.79	0.0606	277.47	0.0547	1.108	277.45	0.0555	1.091
	277.79	0.0606	277.44	0.0496	1.223	277.68	0.0593	1.023
	277.79	0.0607	277.50	0.0479	1.268	277.67	0.0623	0.974
	277.79	0.0610	277.48	0.0504	1.21	277.49	0.0576	1.060
	278.14	0.0655	277.89	0.0424	1.078	277.78	0.0611	1.073
			277.88	0.0184	-			





1s ionization energy increase and conformational relaxation at the same time

/ university of groningen









at variance with previous data on ubiquitin

A. R. Milosavljevic, C. Nicolas, M. L. J. Rankovic, F. Canon, C. Miron and A. Giuliani, J. Phys. Chem. Lett., 2015, 6, 3132-3138



- DFT calculations (T.Jansen): helicity reduces the main resonance, but the effect is (too?) weak
- there is no circular dichroism observed for any channel (within the accuracy of the experiment)
  - other explanations?
    - future: IMS!

### exciting DNA



**DNA interactions with energetic photons** 

- biological radiation action / radiotherapy
- charge transport in DNA
- interactions with aqueous environment





negatively charged in solution



### telomers as hole traps?



Moller-Plesset perturbation theory: the telomere sequence TTAGGG can function as a profound hole trap.

E. Cauët, Journal of Biomolecular Structure & Dynamics 29 (2011) 557

single/double ionization of *deprotonated* telomer containing oligos induced by soft X-ray absorption

(TTAGGGCCGCCG-5H)<sup>5-</sup>=(M-5H)<sup>5-</sup>, m/z=731.5 Da



### telomers as hole traps?







all major fragmentation channels involve strand breakage somewhere in the GGG sequence!

### thanks



### v university of groningen

#### ZIAM, Groningen

Dmitrii Egorov Olmo Gonzalez-Magaña Erwin Bodewits Leon Boschman Ronnie Hoekstra Thomas Jansen (theory)

#### CIMAP, Caen

Jean Christophe Poully Lucas Schwob Violaine Vizcaino Mathieu Lalande Jimmy Rangama

#### HZB, Berlin

J. Tobias Lau Konstantin Hirsch Vicente Zamudio-Bayer Christine Bülow Rebecka Lindblad Georg Leistner Arkadiusz Ławicki Piter S. Miedema

#### **DESY**, Hamburg

Sadia Bari Rebecca Boll S. Dörner S. Deinert S. Techert **University Freiburg** 

Bernd von Issendorf

#### MPI für Kernphysik Heidelberg

Kirsten Schnorr Georg Schmid Claus Dieter Schröter Robert Moshammer

### large protein-many photons



university of groningen

#### next step:

- large protein (ubiquitin+10H)<sup>10+</sup>
- many photons

#### $\rightarrow$ FLASH



## large protein-many photons



### university of groningen



single photon conditions:

- non-dissociative ionization
- immonium ions weak

#### multiphoton conditions:

immonium ions dominate



### large protein-many photons



university of groningen



$$I(r,z) = I_0 \frac{4 \ln 2}{\pi \Delta(z)^2} exp\left(-\frac{4 \ln 2}{\Delta(z)^2} r^2\right)$$



university of groningen

beam

#### $\sigma_{total}(90 \text{ eV}) \sim 6.7 \text{ x } 10^{-18} \text{ cm}^2$ from summation of atomic data

J. J. Yeh, Atomic Calculation of Photoionization Cross-Sections and Asymmetry Parameters, Gordon and Breach Science Publishers, Langhorne, PE, USA, 1993.



MQIFVKTLTGKTITLEVEPSDTIENVKAKIQDKEGIPPDQQRLIFAGKQLEDGRTLSDYNIQKESTLHLVLRLRGG



university of groningen

immonium ion formation upon multiphoton absorption NOT

due to initial charge state!





university of groningen



T. Schlathölter, G. Reitsma, D. Egorov, O. Gonzalez–Magaña, S. Bari, L. Boschman, E. Bodewits, K. Schnorr, G. Schmid, C. D. Schröter, R. Moshammer, and R. Hoekstra. Angewandte Chemie – International Edition 55 (2016) 10741



university of groningen

linear increase of immonium yields

# protein behaves as ensemble of free amino acids or peptides

fast local structural response