



Communication

Ionic Environment Affects Biomolecular Interactions of Amyloid- β : SPR Biosensor Study

Erika Hemmerová¹, Tomáš Špringer¹, Zdeňka Křištofiková² and Jiří Homola^{1,*} 

¹ Institute of Photonics and Electronics of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Chaberská 1014/57, 182 51 Prague, Czech Republic; hemmerova@ufe.cz (E.H.); springer@ufe.cz (T.Š.)

² National Institute of Mental Health, Topolová 748, 250 67 Klecany, Czech Republic; zdenakristofikova@gmail.com

* Correspondence: homola@ufe.cz; Tel.: +420-266-773-448

Received: 2 November 2020; Accepted: 17 December 2020; Published: 20 December 2020



Abstract: In early stages of Alzheimer's disease (AD), amyloid beta ($A\beta$) accumulates in the mitochondrial matrix and interacts with mitochondrial proteins, such as cyclophilin D (cypD) and 17 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase 10 (17 β -HSD10). Multiple processes associated with AD such as increased production or oligomerization of $A\beta$ affect these interactions and disbalance the equilibrium between the biomolecules, which contributes to mitochondrial dysfunction. Here, we investigate the effect of the ionic environment on the interactions of $A\beta$ ($A\beta_{1-40}$, $A\beta_{1-42}$) with cypD and 17 β -HSD10 using a surface plasmon resonance (SPR) biosensor. We show that changes in concentrations of K^+ and Mg^{2+} significantly affect the interactions and may increase the binding efficiency between the biomolecules by up to 35% and 65% for the interactions with $A\beta_{1-40}$ and $A\beta_{1-42}$, respectively, in comparison with the physiological state. We also demonstrate that while the binding of $A\beta_{1-40}$ to cypD and 17 β -HSD10 takes place preferentially around the physiological concentrations of ions, decreased concentrations of K^+ and increased concentrations of Mg^{2+} promote the interaction of both mitochondrial proteins with $A\beta_{1-42}$. These results suggest that the ionic environment represents an important factor that should be considered in the investigation of biomolecular interactions taking place in the mitochondrial matrix under physiological as well as AD-associated conditions.

Keywords: biomolecular interactions; mitochondrial matrix; surface plasmon resonance (SPR); amyloid beta ($A\beta$); cyclophilin D (cypD); 17 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase 10 (17 β -HSD10); ionic environment

1. Introduction

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is currently the most common neurodegenerative disease of the elderly. It is characterized by extensive neuronal failure in which, according to the current understanding of AD, peptide amyloid beta ($A\beta$) plays a central role. $A\beta$ is most commonly expressed as $A\beta_{1-40}$ and $A\beta_{1-42}$ fragments that are comprised of 40 and 42 amino acids, respectively [1]. During AD, the production of $A\beta$ is increased and skewed towards $A\beta_{1-42}$ [2]. Both fragments of $A\beta$ are known to form oligomers ($A\beta_{1-42}$ more readily than $A\beta_{1-40}$ [3,4]) which have been shown to cause more substantial neuronal damage than monomers [5]. However, the exact molecular mechanisms of $A\beta$ -induced pathological processes during AD remain poorly understood. Multiple hypotheses have been proposed [6], such as the mitochondrial cascade hypothesis [7], amyloid toxic oligomer hypothesis [8], calcium hypothesis [9] and lipid-chaperon hypothesis [10]. In this work, we follow the mitochondrial cascade hypothesis and investigate the $A\beta$ -triggered processes taking place in mitochondria during AD.

In early stages of AD, $A\beta$ accumulates in the mitochondrial matrix, where it interacts with multiple mitochondrial proteins, such as cyclophilin D (cypD) [11,12] and 17 β -hydroxysteroid

dehydrogenase type 10 (17 β -HSD10) [13,14]. These interactions have been suggested to form a biomolecular link between A β and deteriorated mitochondrial functions [11,14], such as decreased energy metabolism [15,16], increased production of reactive oxygen species (ROS) [17] or formation of mitochondrial permeability transition pores (mPTPs) [12,18].

Interaction properties of A β have been the subject of multiple studies; in *in vitro* studies, synthetic A β oligomers generated *in vitro* have commonly been used [11,13,19,20]. Although there are differences in the biological characteristics of natural (obtained from biological samples) and synthetic oligomers, the differences are mainly in the efficiency of their action rather than in their function in biological processes [21,22]. In our recent work, we studied interactions of A β with cypD and 17 β -HSD10, and with the use of a multi-interaction model, we demonstrated that the processes associated with early stages of AD such as the oligomerization of A β and increased/favored production of A β _{1–42} affect the equilibrium between these biomolecules in the mitochondrial matrix [23]. We also showed that 17 β -HSD10 specifically binds cypD and thus regulates levels of free cypD in the mitochondrial matrix [24,25]. Our study also revealed that A β disrupts this regulation [24] which may result in the translocation of free cypD to the inner mitochondrial membrane and induce the formation of mPTPs [15]. In addition, our study showed that the ability of 17 β -HSD10 to regulate cypD is significantly affected by the ionic environment in which the interaction takes place [24].

The ionic environment inside the mitochondrial matrix is established via multiple specialized channels through which ions are transferred between the cytosol and mitochondrial matrix. Physiological and pathological factors and processes (e.g., the temporal metabolic situation of the cell or the perturbations in the cytosolic environment) regulate this transfer and thus the concentrations of ions inside the mitochondrial matrix [26–30]. The most abundant ion present in the mitochondrial matrix is K⁺ which regulates/is regulated by the mitochondrial volume and the level of produced ROS [31,32]. It is assumed that K⁺ is present at a concentration of 140 mM both in the matrix and cytosol [31,33]. However, it has also been demonstrated that a decrease in the membrane potential (e.g., during the synthesis of ATP) may induce a decrease in K⁺ concentrations [34] and there are works that have reported considerably lower K⁺ concentrations (down to 15 mM) [32,35]. Mg²⁺ is the most abundant bivalent ion in the mitochondrial matrix and is typically present at concentrations of about 15–18 mM [36]. The majority of Mg²⁺ is bound by ATP and other Mg²⁺-binding biomolecules for which it serves as a cofactor [29] and only approximately 0.5–2.5 mM of the total Mg²⁺ is free [28,37]. In response to stimuli, such as the presence of particular hormones [26], increased energy demands of the cell [37] or perturbations in ionic strength inside the mitochondrial matrix [26], Mg²⁺ may dissociate from the complexes with biomolecules or leak from the matrix to the cytosol and thus increase or decrease the concentration of free Mg²⁺ in the mitochondrial matrix, respectively [38]. Moreover, it seems that the actions of different ions are interconnected and changes in the concentrations of one ion influence the distribution of the others [34]. In addition, the net ionic strength is also likely to fluctuate. Despite the number of studies on the ionic environment in the mitochondrial matrix, the knowledge of concentration ranges of ions and their relationship to particular biomolecular processes remains limited.

In this work, we investigate the effect of the ionic environment on the interactions of A β (A β _{1–40}, A β _{1–42}) with cypD and 17 β -HSD10. The oligomeric forms of A β _{1–40} and A β _{1–42} pertinent to AD, i.e., monomeric A β _{1–40} and oligomeric A β _{1–42}, are considered. In particular, we study the biomolecular interactions in the presence of K⁺ and Mg²⁺ using the surface plasmon resonance (SPR) biosensor method and show how changes in the concentrations of these ions affect the biomolecular interactions.

2. Results

2.1. Interactions of A β _{1–40} and A β _{1–42} with cypD at Different Concentrations of K⁺ and Mg²⁺

Initially, we investigated the effect of varying concentrations of K⁺ and Mg²⁺ on the interactions of cypD and A β . Figures 1 and 2 show the obtained reference-compensated sensor responses corresponding to the binding of monomeric A β _{1–40} and oligomeric A β _{1–42} to the immobilized cypD in

the presence of different concentrations of K^+ and Mg^{2+} , respectively, and demonstrate the significant effect of these ions on the interactions.

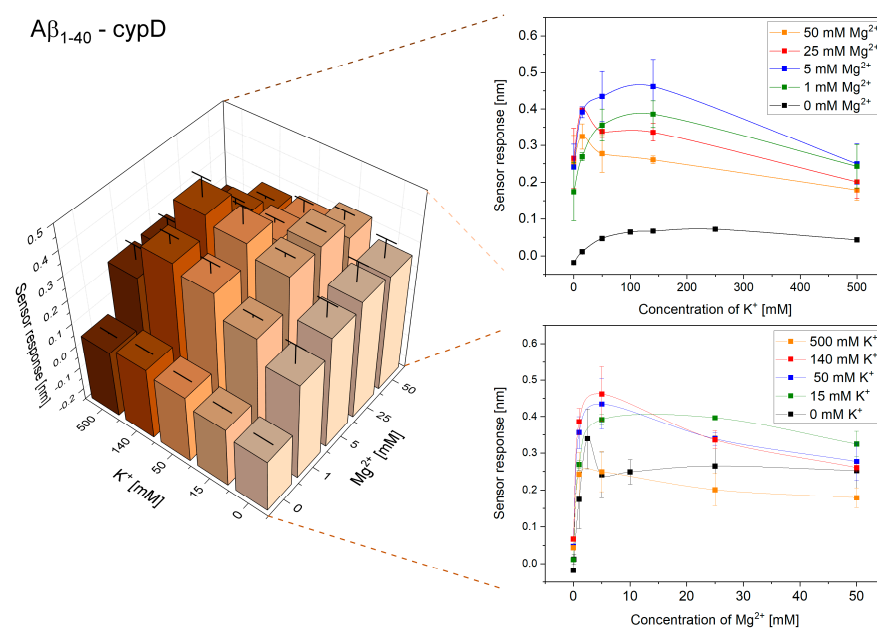


Figure 1. Reference-compensated sensor response to the binding of monomeric $A\beta_{1-40}$ to the immobilized cypD as a function of concentration of K^+ and Mg^{2+} .

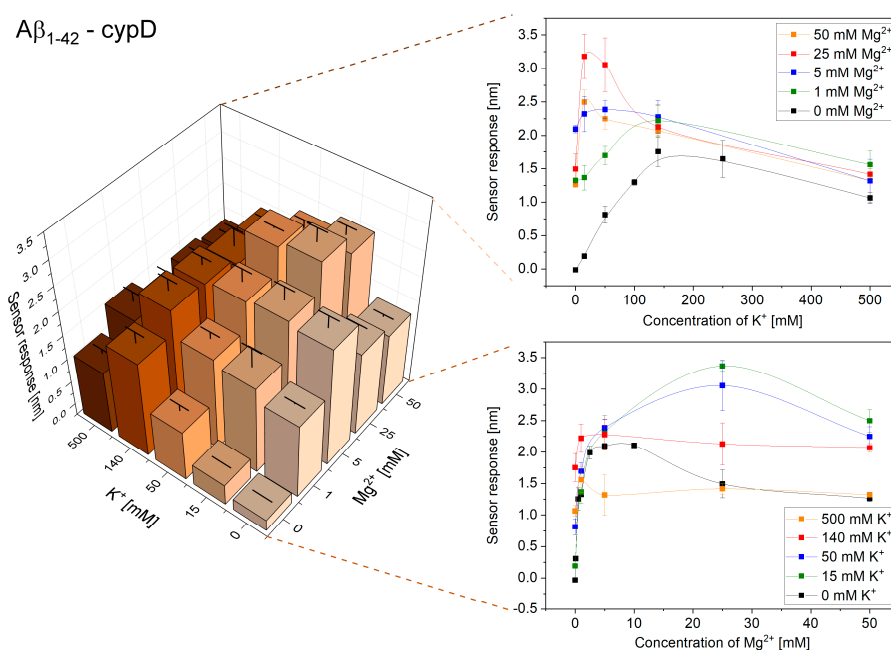


Figure 2. Reference-compensated sensor response to the binding of oligomeric $A\beta_{1-42}$ to the immobilized cypD as a function of concentration of K^+ and Mg^{2+} .

The binding efficiency of the interactions follows a complex trend. The binding efficiency is lowest in the absence of K^+ and Mg^{2+} , increases with increasing concentrations of ions until it reaches the maximum and then decreases. The maximum binding efficiency of the interactions between cypD and $A\beta$ occurred at different ionic concentrations for $A\beta_{1-40}$ and $A\beta_{1-42}$. While the highest binding efficiency of the interaction between cypD and $A\beta_{1-40}$ was observed at 140 mM K^+ and 5 mM Mg^{2+} ,

the highest binding efficiency of the interaction between $A\beta_{1-42}$ and cypD occurred at 15 mM K^+ and 25 mM Mg^{2+} .

The different effects of ions on the binding efficiency between $A\beta$ and cypD observed for $A\beta_{1-40}$ and $A\beta_{1-42}$ may originate from two main factors: (1) the different oligomerization state of the particular fragments of $A\beta$ ($A\beta_{1-40}$ in the monomeric form, $A\beta_{1-42}$ in the oligomeric form), and (2) the structural differences between the two fragments (two additional hydrophobic amino acids in the structure of $A\beta_{1-42}$). In order to evaluate the contribution of these factors, we investigate the effect of the oligomerization state of $A\beta$ on the interactions (Section 2.2).

2.2. The Effect of the Oligomerization State of $A\beta$

In order to evaluate whether the different effects of ions on the binding between $A\beta$ and cypD observed for $A\beta_{1-40}$ and $A\beta_{1-42}$ may originate from the different oligomerization states of the particular fragments of $A\beta$, we analyzed the binding of $A\beta_{1-40}$ and $A\beta_{1-42}$ in both monomeric and oligomeric forms (see Section 4.1.3 in Materials and Methods) to the immobilized cypD. The binding was observed in the presence of 5 mM Mg^{2+} and varying concentrations of K^+ , as under these conditions, the differences in trends obtained for the different fragments of $A\beta$ were the most evident.

Figure 3 shows that oligomeric forms of $A\beta$ exhibit higher sensor responses in comparison to the monomeric forms, which agrees well with the results of our previous study [14]. However, the maximum binding efficiency occurs for the same ionic environment for both oligomerization forms for both fragments of $A\beta$. It occurs in the presence of 140 mM K^+ for the interaction between monomeric as well as oligomeric $A\beta_{1-40}$ and cypD and in the presence of 50 mM K^+ for the interaction between monomeric as well as oligomeric $A\beta_{1-42}$ and cypD. Thus, we conclude that the observed trends are not affected by the different oligomerization states of the fragments but rather originate from the structural differences between $A\beta_{1-40}$ and $A\beta_{1-42}$.

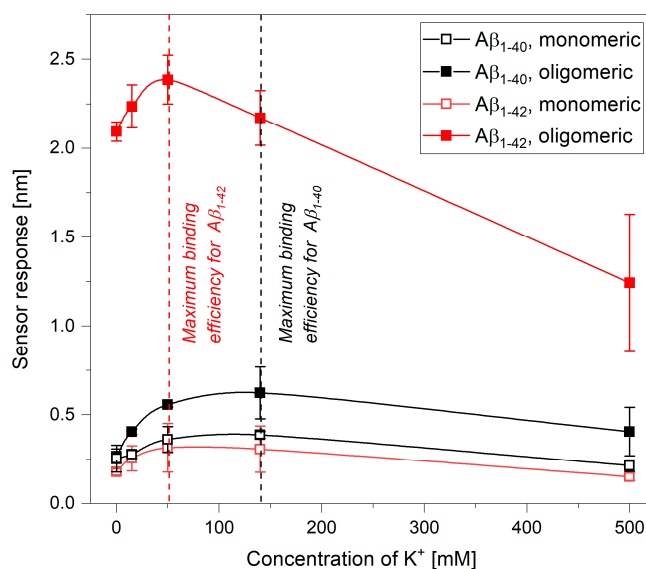


Figure 3. Reference-compensated sensor response to the binding of $A\beta$ in different oligomerization forms to the immobilized cypD as a function of concentration of K^+ in the presence of 5 mM Mg^{2+} .

2.3. Interactions of $A\beta_{1-40}$ and $A\beta_{1-42}$ with 17 β -HSD10 at Different Concentrations of K^+ and Mg^{2+}

In this part of the study, we investigated the effect of the ionic environment on the interactions of 17 β -HSD10 and $A\beta$. Figures 4 and 5 show the obtained reference-compensated sensor responses to the binding of monomeric $A\beta_{1-40}$ and oligomeric $A\beta_{1-42}$ to the immobilized 17 β -HSD10 in the presence of varying concentrations of K^+ and Mg^{2+} , respectively.

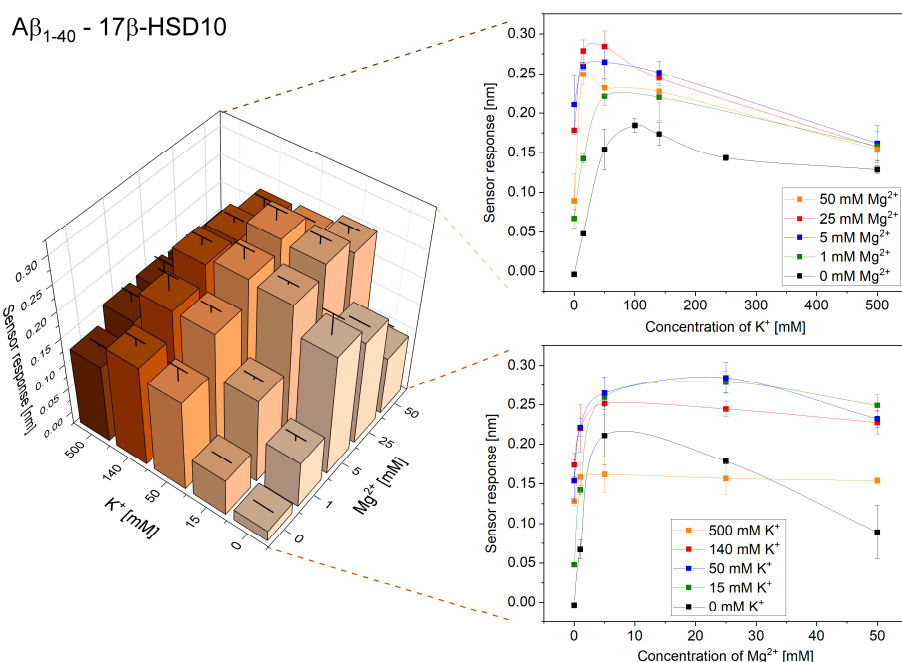


Figure 4. Reference-compensated sensor response to the binding of monomeric Aβ₁₋₄₀ to the immobilized 17β-HSD10 as a function of concentration of K⁺ and Mg²⁺.

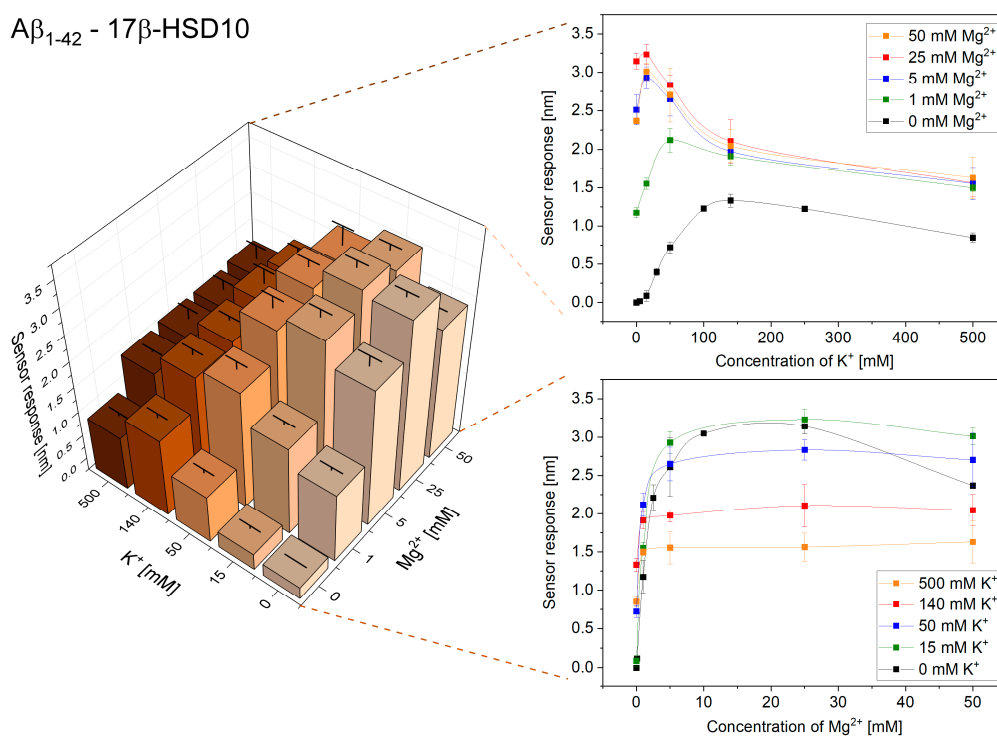


Figure 5. Reference-compensated sensor response to the binding of oligomeric Aβ₁₋₄₂ to the immobilized 17β-HSD10 as a function of concentration of K⁺ and Mg²⁺.

We observed a peak in the efficiency of the binding between 17β-HSD10 and Aβ for ionic compositions that were different for Aβ₁₋₄₀ and Aβ₁₋₄₂ (similarly as for the interaction between cypD and Aβ). The maximum binding efficiency for the interaction of 17β-HSD10 with Aβ₁₋₄₀ and Aβ₁₋₄₂ was observed for 50 mM K⁺ and 25 mM Mg²⁺ and for 15 mM K⁺ and 25 mM Mg²⁺, respectively.

3. Discussion

Our results demonstrate that perturbations of the concentrations of K^+ and Mg^{2+} may considerably affect the interactions between biomolecules in the mitochondrial matrix (Figures 1–5). For all the interactions investigated herein, we observed a peak in the maximum binding efficiency occurring at a particular ionic composition. The peak was sharper for interactions of $A\beta_{1-42}$ with both cypD and 17 β -HSD10 when compared to the interactions of $A\beta_{1-40}$, suggesting that the interactions of $A\beta_{1-42}$ are more sensitive to changes in concentrations of ions. Moreover, the position of the peak differed for different interactions. It occurred at 15 mM K^+ and 25 mM Mg^{2+} for interactions of $A\beta_{1-42}$ and at 50–140 mM K^+ and 5–25 mM Mg^{2+} for interactions of $A\beta_{1-40}$ with both cypD and 17 β -HSD10. Assuming the physiological concentrations of ions in the mitochondrial matrix to be 140 mM K^+ and 1 mM Mg^{2+} , we conclude that the binding efficiency of the interactions of $A\beta$ with cypD and 17 β -HSD10 may increase by 20–35% for $A\beta_{1-40}$ and by 40–65% for $A\beta_{1-42}$ in comparison with the physiological conditions.

In our previous study, we showed that processes related to AD such as increased production of $A\beta$, unbalanced production of $A\beta$ fragments favoring $A\beta_{1-42}$ or oligomerization of $A\beta_{1-42}$ significantly affect the interactions between $A\beta$ and mitochondrial proteins and enhance the binding of $A\beta_{1-42}$ to both cypD and 17 β -HSD10 [23]. In this work, we demonstrate that the mitochondrial ionic environment also plays an important role in biomolecular processes taking place in the mitochondrial matrix, and we show that the conditions causing decreased concentrations of K^+ and increased concentrations of Mg^{2+} may further enhance the binding of $A\beta_{1-42}$ to both cypD and 17 β -HSD10.

Despite the large number of studies on the ionic transport in mitochondria, it remains difficult to relate a specific ionic composition to a particular process taking place in the mitochondrial matrix. Due to the oxidative inactivation of ATP-related enzymes, decreased production of ATP has been observed in affected areas of the AD brain [39]. Bredshaw et al. associated the decreased levels of ATP with the increased concentration of free Mg^{2+} inside the mitochondrial matrix [26]. The excess of free Mg^{2+} may inhibit the function of $mitoK_{ATP}$, which may decrease the influx of K^+ in mitochondria [40]. Therefore, we hypothesize that, under the circumstances of progressing AD, the deteriorated mitochondrial functions alter the ionic environment in mitochondria which promotes the interactions of $A\beta_{1-42}$ with cypD and 17 β -HSD10. These interactions lead to the inhibition of the enzymatic function of 17 β -HSD10 [14] and contribute to an increased production of ROS [41] and thus further aggravate the pathology of AD.

4. Materials and Methods

4.1. Materials

4.1.1. Reagents

NaCl, NaOH, KCl, $MgCl_2$, hexafluoroisopropanol (HFIP), NH_4OH , bovine serum albumin (BSA) and all buffers were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Czech Republic. Thiols: 11-mercapto-hexa(ethyleneglycol)undecyloxy acetic acid ($HS-C_{11}-(EG)_6-OCH_2-COOH$) and 11-mercapto-tetra(ethyleneglycol)undecanol ($HS-C_{11}-(EG)_4-OH$), were purchased from Prochimia, Poland. *N*-hydroxysuccinimide (NHS), 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-carbodiimide hydrochloride (EDC) and ethanolamine hydrochloride (EA) were purchased from GE Healthcare, Sweden. 17 β -HSD10 (human, recombinant), cypD (human, recombinant) and an antibody against cypD (Ab(cypD)) were purchased from Fitzgerald, USA. An antibody against 17 β -HSD10 (Ab(17 β -HSD10)) was purchased from Biologend, USA. $A\beta_{1-40}$ and $A\beta_{1-42}$ (human, synthetic) were obtained from AnaSpec, USA, dissolved in 1% NH_4OH and diluted by PBS to obtain the stock concentration of 100 μM .

4.1.2. Buffers

The buffers used for the functionalization of SPR chips and the immobilization of cypD and 17 β -HSD10 to the surface included the following: sodium acetate (SA10; 10 mM, pH 5.0), MES (10 mM, pH 5.0), phosphate-buffered saline (PBS; 10 mM phosphate, 2.7 mM KCl, 138 mM NaCl, pH 7.4), high-ionic strength PBS (PBS_{Na}; 10 mM phosphate, 2.7 mM KCl, 750 mM NaCl, pH 7.4). All the buffers were prepared using deionized Milli-Q water (Merck, Czech Republic).

The running buffer (RB) with varying concentrations of K⁺ and Mg²⁺ was used for the binding of A β to the surface to simulate different ionic environments of the interactions of A β with cypD and 17 β -HSD10. All the used RBs were prepared as 10 mM HEPES in Milli-Q with addition of BSA (200 μ g/mL). The pH was adjusted by NaOH to 7.4 and NaCl was used to set the concentration of Na⁺ to 5 mM. Concentrations of K⁺ and Mg²⁺ in RBs were adjusted by the addition of aqueous solutions of KCl and MgCl₂ at particular concentrations that ensured the same dilution (9:1) of RBs for all the concentrations of ions.

4.1.3. Preparation of A β Samples

In this work, A β _{1–40} and A β _{1–42} fragments with different oligomerization states were prepared using the procedures described in our previous study [23]. The oligomeric forms of A β _{1–40} and A β _{1–42} were prepared using Preparation A, whereas monomeric A β _{1–40} and monomeric A β _{1–42} were prepared using Preparation C and Preparation B, respectively. Briefly, in Preparation A, A β from the stock solution was diluted by RB to obtain the final concentration of A β of 1 μ M. In Preparation B, A β from the stock solution was diluted by 12.5 mM NaOH in the volume ratio of 1:4, sonicated for 5 min and finally diluted by RB to obtain the final concentration of A β of 1 μ M. In Preparation C, A β from the stock solution was mixed with HFIP in the volume ratio of 1:9, vortexed for 1 min and then the solvent was evaporated using a stream of nitrogen (solid A β was dissolved in RB to obtain the final concentration of A β of 1 μ M).

4.2. Instrumentation

4.2.1. Surface Plasmon Resonance (SPR) Biosensor

We used a six-channel SPR biosensor platform based on wavelength spectroscopy of surface plasmons (Plasmon VI) developed at the Institute of Photonics and Electronics, Prague. In this SPR platform, the angle of incidence of the light beam is fixed and changes in the resonance wavelength of surface plasmons are measured by analyzing the spectrum of polychromatic light reflected from an SPR chip. The resonance wavelength is sensitive to changes in the refractive index caused by the binding of biomolecules to the surface of an SPR chip. A shift in the resonance wavelength of 1 nm represents a change in the protein surface coverage of 17 ng/cm². The SPR chips used in this study were prepared by coating microscope glass slides obtained from Marienfeld, Germany, with thin layers of titanium (1–2 nm) and gold (48 nm) via e-beam evaporation in vacuum. The SPR platform was combined with a dispersionless microfluidic module [42]. The active temperature stabilization unit allowed maintaining the temperature in the system with a precision of 0.01 °C. All experiments reported in this study were performed at a temperature of 25 °C and a flow rate of 20 μ L/min.

4.2.2. Functionalization of the SPR Chip

Prior to the experiments, the surface of an SPR chip was modified by a self-assembled monolayer of mixed thiols, on which specific antibodies (Ab(cypD) or Ab(17 β -HSD10)) were immobilized using the amino-coupling method as described previously [43]. Briefly, a clean SPR chip was immersed in a 3:7 molar mixture of HS-C₁₁-(EG)₆-OCH₂-COOH and HS-C₁₁-(EG)₄-OH (ethanol solution, total concentration of 0.2 mM), incubated for 10 min at 40 °C and then incubated for at least 12 h at room temperature in the dark. Prior to use, the chip was rinsed with ethanol and Milli-Q water, dried with a stream of nitrogen and mounted in the SPR platform. First, the mixture of 12.5 mM NHS and 62.5 mM

EDC in Milli-Q water was injected (10 min) to activate the carboxylic groups. Then, Ab(cypD) or Ab(17 β -HSD10) at a concentration of 10 μ g/mL in SA10 was pumped through the flow cell until the response to the immobilized antibody leveled off (~15 min, surface coverage ~ 220 and 300 ng/cm²). Then, PBS_{Na} was applied (5 min) to remove the antibody non-covalently attached to the surface. Finally, 500 mM EA in Milli-Q water was injected (5 min) to deactivate the unreacted carboxylic groups.

4.2.3. Immobilization of cypD to the Functionalized SPR Chip

The SPR chip functionalized with Ab(cypD) was washed with MES. Then, the detection channels were exposed to 100 nM cypD in MES until the response to the immobilized cypD leveled off (~15 min, surface coverage ~100 ng/cm²), while the reference channels were kept in MES. Then, all channels were washed with MES (>20 min) and exposed to PBS_{Na} (5 min) to remove the non-covalently attached cypD.

In order to compensate for the variations in the surface coverage of the immobilized cypD after the PBS_{Na} washing, five different levels of cypD (surface coverage of 1.7–100 ng/cm² before PBS_{Na} washing) were immobilized on the surface of an SPR chip. Then, MES was exchanged for RB containing 5 mM Mg²⁺ and 140 mM K⁺ and monomeric A β _{1–40} or oligomeric A β _{1–42} at a concentration of 1 μ M in RB were injected in both the reference and detection channels (5 min). Finally, RB was injected again. The sensor responses obtained in the reference channels 5 min after switching back to the RB were subtracted from those obtained in the detection channels. Such reference-compensated sensor responses were plotted as a function of cypD surface coverage and fitted by the Boltzmann function. The experiment was repeated three times and the parameters obtained from the fitting were averaged and used to normalize the measured sensor responses to the binding of A β to varying levels of cypD to those corresponding to the binding of A β to cypD with the surface coverage of 34 ng/cm².

4.2.4. Immobilization of 17 β -HSD10 to the Functionalized SPR Chip

The SPR chip functionalized with Ab(17 β -HSD10) was washed with MES. Then, the detection channels were exposed to 100 nM 17 β -HSD10 in MES until the response to the immobilized 17 β -HSD10 leveled off (~15 min, surface coverage of 150 ng/cm²), while the reference channels were kept in MES. Then, all the channels were washed with MES (> 20 min). In contrast to the immobilization of cypD, the immobilization of 17 β -HSD10 resulted in a stable surface that was resistant to changes in RB and thus no additional steps were necessary.

4.3. Interactions of A β _{1–40} and A β _{1–42} with cypD and 17 β -HSD10 at Different Concentrations of K⁺ and Mg²⁺

In all the experiments performed in this study, RB was injected into both the detection and reference channels of the functionalized SPR chip and flowed along the surface until the stable baseline was reached. Then, the sample of A β (prepared according to Preparations A–C, see Section 4.1.3 in Materials and Methods) at a concentration of 1 μ M in the particular RB was injected into both the detection (surface with immobilized cypD or 17 β -HSD10) and the reference (surface without immobilized cypD or 17 β -HSD10) channels (5 min). Then, RB was injected again. The final sensor response was determined as a difference between the responses of the detection and reference channels 5 min after switching back to RB. The reference channel accounts for interferences (e.g., due to the electrostatically induced effects) and therefore the final reference-compensated sensor response corresponds to the specific binding of A β to cypD or 17 β -HSD10 in the particular ionic environment. Each experiment was repeated at least three times and at least three sensor response values were used to calculate the mean and standard deviation of the sensor responses for the particular concentration of ions.

The effect of the ionic environment on the interactions of monomeric A β _{1–40} and oligomeric A β _{1–42} with cypD and 17 β -HSD10 was investigated using RBs containing K⁺ at concentrations of 0, 15, 50, 140 and 500 mM and Mg²⁺ at concentrations of 0, 1, 5, 25 and 50 mM. The effect of the oligomerization state of A β on the interactions of A β with cypD was investigated using RBs containing 5 mM Mg²⁺ and 0, 15, 50, 140 and 500 mM K⁺ and A β _{1–40} and A β _{1–42} prepared in both monomeric and oligomeric forms.

15. Yan, S.D.; Stern, D.M. Mitochondrial dysfunction and Alzheimer's disease: Role of amyloid- β peptide alcohol dehydrogenase (ABAD). *Int. J. Exp. Pathol.* **2005**, *86*, 161–171. [[CrossRef](#)]
16. Luo, Z.; Zhang, J.; Wang, Y.; Chen, J.; Li, Y.; Duan, Y. An aptamer based method for small molecules detection through monitoring salt-induced AuNPs aggregation and surface plasmon resonance (SPR) detection. *Sens. Actuators B Chem.* **2016**, *236*, 474–479. [[CrossRef](#)]
17. Singh, P.; Suman, S.; Chandna, S.; Das, T.K. Possible role of amyloid-beta, adenine nucleotide translocase and cyclophilin-D interaction in mitochondrial dysfunction of Alzheimer's disease. *Bioinformation* **2009**, *3*, 440–445. [[CrossRef](#)]
18. Rao, V.K.; Carlson, E.A.; Yan, S.S. Mitochondrial permeability transition pore is a potential drug target for neurodegeneration. *Biochim. Et Biophys. Acta (Bba)-Mol. Basis Dis.* **2014**, *1842*, 1267–1272. [[CrossRef](#)]
19. Bartolini, M.; Naldi, M.; Fiori, J.; Valle, F.; Biscarini, F.; Nicolau, D.V.; Andrisano, V. Kinetic characterization of amyloid-beta 1–42 aggregation with a multimethodological approach. *Anal. Biochem.* **2011**, *414*, 215–225. [[CrossRef](#)]
20. Hou, L.; Shao, H.; Zhang, Y.; Li, H.; Menon, N.K.; Neuhaus, E.B.; Brewer, J.M.; Byeon, I.-J.L.; Ray, D.G.; Vitek, M.P.; et al. Solution NMR Studies of the A β (1–40) and A β (1–42) Peptides Establish that the Met35 Oxidation State Affects the Mechanism of Amyloid Formation. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, *126*, 1992–2005. [[CrossRef](#)]
21. Wang, Q.; Walsh, D.M.; Rowan, M.J.; Selkoe, D.J.; Anwyl, R. Block of Long-Term Potentiation by Naturally Secreted and Synthetic Amyloid β -Peptide in Hippocampal Slices Is Mediated via Activation of the Kinases c-Jun N-Terminal Kinase, Cyclin-Dependent Kinase 5, and p38 Mitogen-Activated Protein Kinase as well as Metabotropic Glutamate Receptor Type 5. *J. Neurosci.* **2004**, *24*, 3370–3378. [[CrossRef](#)] [[PubMed](#)]
22. Kittelberger, K.A.; Piazza, F.; Tesco, G.; Reijmers, L.G. Natural Amyloid-Beta Oligomers Acutely Impair the Formation of a Contextual Fear Memory in Mice. *PLoS ONE* **2012**, *7*, e29940. [[CrossRef](#)] [[PubMed](#)]
23. Hemmerová, E.; Špringer, T.; Křištofiková, Z.; Homola, J. Study of Biomolecular Interactions of Mitochondrial Proteins Related to Alzheimer's Disease: Toward Multi-Interaction Biomolecular Processes. *Biomolecules* **2020**, *10*, 1214. [[CrossRef](#)] [[PubMed](#)]
24. Hemmerová, E.; Špringer, T.; Křištofiková, Z.; Homola, J. In vitro study of interaction of 17 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase type 10 and cyclophilin D and its potential implications for Alzheimer's disease. *Sci. Rep.* **2019**, *9*, 16700. [[CrossRef](#)]
25. Křištofiková, Z.; Špringer, T.; Gedeonová, E.; Hofmannová, A.; Řičný, J.; Hromádková, L.; Vyhňálek, M.; Laczo, J.; Nikolai, T.; Hort, J.; et al. Interactions of 17 β -Hydroxysteroid Dehydrogenase Type 10 and Cyclophilin D in Alzheimer's Disease. *Neurochem. Res.* **2020**, *45*, 915–927.
26. Bradshaw, P.C.; Pfeiffer, D.R. Release of Ca²⁺ and Mg²⁺ from yeast mitochondria is stimulated by increased ionic strength. *Bmc Biochem.* **2006**, *7*, 4. [[CrossRef](#)]
27. Haumann, J.; Dash, R.K.; Stowe, D.F.; Boelens, A.D.; Beard, D.A.; Camara, A.K. Mitochondrial free [Ca²⁺] increases during ATP/ADP antiport and ADP phosphorylation: Exploration of mechanisms. *Biophys. J.* **2010**, *99*, 997–1006. [[CrossRef](#)]
28. Jung, D.W.; Apel, L.; Brierley, G.P. Matrix free magnesium changes with metabolic state in isolated heart mitochondria. *Biochemistry* **1990**, *29*, 4121–4128. [[CrossRef](#)]
29. Yamanaka, R.; Tabata, S.; Shindo, Y.; Hotta, K.; Suzuki, K.; Soga, T.; Oka, K. Mitochondrial Mg²⁺ homeostasis decides cellular energy metabolism and vulnerability to stress. *Sci. Rep.* **2016**, *6*, 30027. [[CrossRef](#)]
30. O'Rourke, B.; Cortassa, S.; Aon, M.A. Mitochondrial Ion Channels: Gatekeepers of Life and Death. *Physiology* **2005**, *20*, 303–315. [[CrossRef](#)]
31. Garlid, K.D.; Paucek, P. Mitochondrial potassium transport: The K⁺ cycle. *Biochim. Et Biophys. Acta (Bba)-Bioenerg.* **2003**, *1606*, 23–41. [[CrossRef](#)]
32. Kaasik, A.; Safiulina, D.; Zharkovsky, A.; Veksler, V. Regulation of mitochondrial matrix volume. *Am. J. Physiol. -Cell Physiol.* **2007**, *292*, C157–C163. [[CrossRef](#)] [[PubMed](#)]
33. Augustynek, B.; Wrzosek, A.; Koprowski, P.; Kielbasa, A.; Bednarczyk, P.; Lukasiak, A.; Dolowy, K.; Szewczyk, A. What we don't know about mitochondrial potassium channels? *Postepy Biochem.* **2016**, *62*, 189–198. [[PubMed](#)]
34. Szabò, I.; Leanza, L.; Gulbins, E.; Zoratti, M. Physiology of potassium channels in the inner membrane of mitochondria. *Pflügers Arch. -Eur. J. Physiol.* **2012**, *463*, 231–246. [[CrossRef](#)]

35. Zoeteweyj, J.P.; van de Water, B.; de Bont, H.J.; Nagelkerke, J.F. Mitochondrial K⁺ as modulator of Ca(2⁺)-dependent cytotoxicity in hepatocytes. Novel application of the K(+)-sensitive dye PBFI (K(+)-binding benzofuran isophthalate) to assess free mitochondrial K⁺ concentrations. *Biochem. J.* **1994**, *299*, 539–543. [[CrossRef](#)] [[PubMed](#)]
36. Yamanaka, R.; Shindo, Y.; Oka, K. Magnesium Is a Key Player in Neuronal Maturation and Neuropathology. *Int. J. Mol. Sci.* **2019**, *20*, 3439. [[CrossRef](#)]
37. Gout, E.; Rébeillé, F.; Douce, R.; Bligny, R. Interplay of Mg(2⁺), ADP, and ATP in the cytosol and mitochondria: Unravelling the role of Mg(2⁺) in cell respiration. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **2014**, *111*, E4560–E4567. [[CrossRef](#)]
38. Pilchova, I.; Klacanova, K.; Tatarkova, Z.; Kaplan, P.; Racay, P. The Involvement of Mg²⁺ in Regulation of Cellular and Mitochondrial Functions. *Oxidative Med. Cell. Longev.* **2017**, *2017*, 8. [[CrossRef](#)]
39. Tramutola, A.; Lanzillotta, C.; Perluigi, M.; Butterfield, D.A. Oxidative stress, protein modification and Alzheimer disease. *Brain Res. Bull.* **2017**, *133*, 88–96. [[CrossRef](#)]
40. Bednarczyk, P.; Dołowy, K.; Szewczyk, A. Matrix Mg²⁺ regulates mitochondrial ATP-dependent potassium channel from heart. *Febs Lett.* **2005**, *579*, 1625–1632. [[CrossRef](#)]
41. Du, H.; Yan, S.S. Mitochondrial permeability transition pore in Alzheimer's disease: Cyclophilin D and amyloid beta. *Biochim. Et Biophys. Acta (Bba)-Mol. Basis Dis.* **2010**, *1802*, 198–204. [[CrossRef](#)] [[PubMed](#)]
42. Špringer, T.; Piliarik, M.; Homola, J. Surface plasmon resonance sensor with dispersionless microfluidics for direct detection of nucleic acids at the low femtomole level. *Sens. Actuators B Chem.* **2010**, *145*, 588–591.
43. Špringer, T.; ChadtováSong, X.; Ermini, M.L.; Lamačová, J.; Homola, J. Functional gold nanoparticles for optical affinity biosensing. *Anal. Bioanal. Chem.* **2017**, *409*, 4087–4097.

Publisher's Note: MDPI stays neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.



© 2020 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).