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Professor Structural Biology

MX for Structural Biology

**The biological problem
and our need for MX**

What MX allowed us to find

**Future opportunities for MX
in biology**

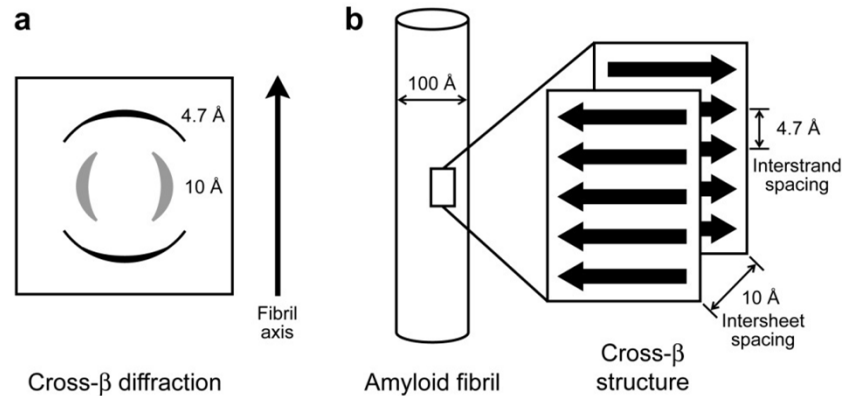
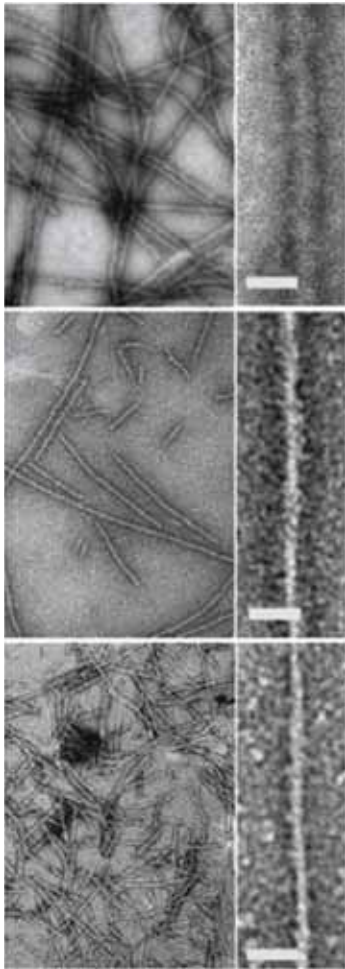

100 nm

Amyloid

- Unbranched, elongated protein fibrils
- Associated with varied diseases (e.g. CJD, Alzheimer's, Dialysis-related amyloidosis)
- Bind Congo Red with green birefringence
- Functional and denatured amyloids
- Cross- β diffraction pattern shows β strands perpendicular to fiber axis: common spine

Pathologists

Bio-physicists



Kishimoto, Namba et al (2004)




Amyloid Fibril-Related Conditions

Amyloid (24)

Prion (transmissible)

Amyloid-like

Alzheimer's	A β	[Psi+]	Sup35		
Alzheimer's	Tau	[Ure2]	Ure3	Parkinson's	α -synuclein
Diabetes II	Amylin aka IAPP			LouGehrig's (ALS)	Superoxide Dismutase TDP-43
Injection amyloidosis	Insulin	CJD, GSS Kuru	PrP	HIV Sexual trans- mission	SEVI
Dialysis amyloidosis	β 2-micro- globulin	BSE, vCJD (mad cow)	PrP	Cancer	p53
Senile amyloidosis	Trans- thyritin				 100 nm

My Scientific Dilemma in 2001

Important biological problem—structure of amyloid fibers

5.4 M Alzheimer's patients in US in 2010

~19 M patients expected by 2050

Economic burden:

In 2010 ~\$ 183B in US health care costs

~11 M people provide unpaid care of AD patients

Essentially no structural information

Structure-based design impossible

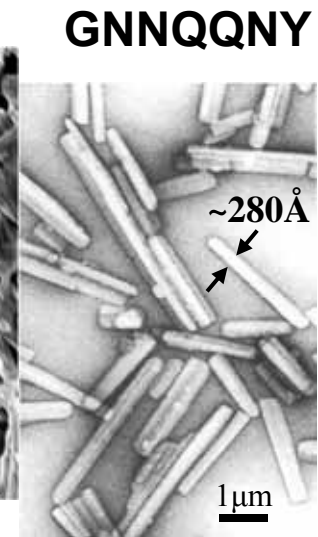
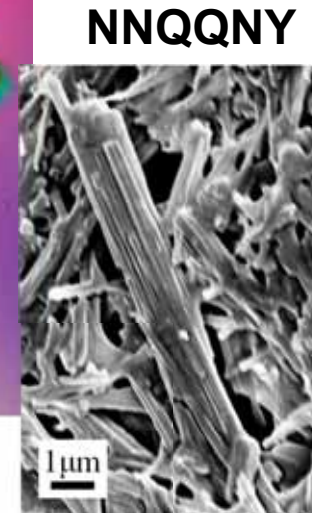
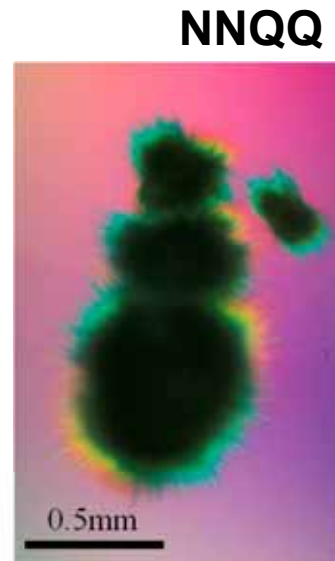
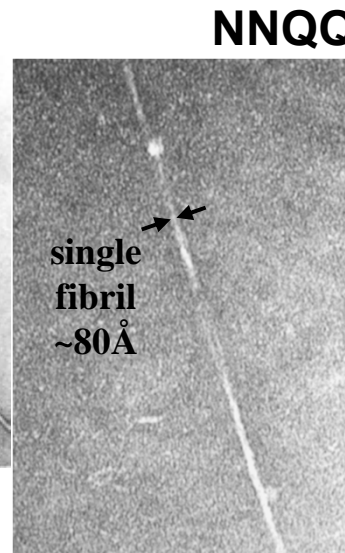
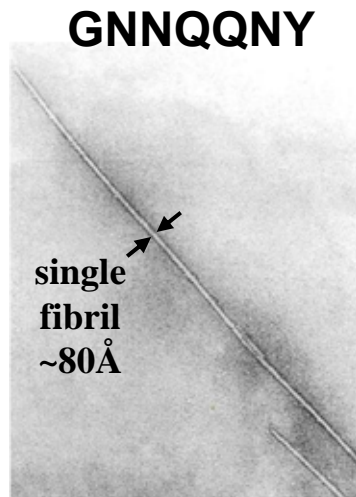
**Amyloid crystals discovered but 30,000 times smaller
than crystals we had previously worked with**

100 nm

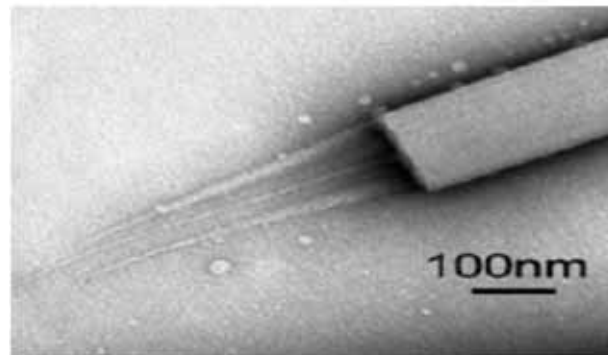
Short segments of fiber-forming proteins form both amyloid fibers and microcrystals

Balbirnie et al. PNAS 2001

In both micro-crystals and fibrils, β -strands are normal to the long axis.



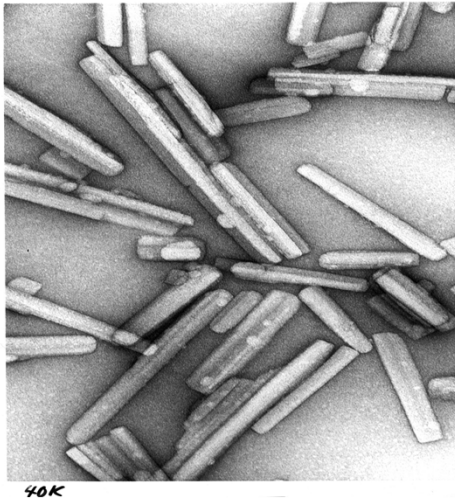
GNNQQNY fibrils exhibit all properties of amyloid fibrils: dye binding, cooperative aggregation kinetics, stability, cross- β diffraction



Fibers seem to grow from tips of crystals

GNNQQNY microcrystals

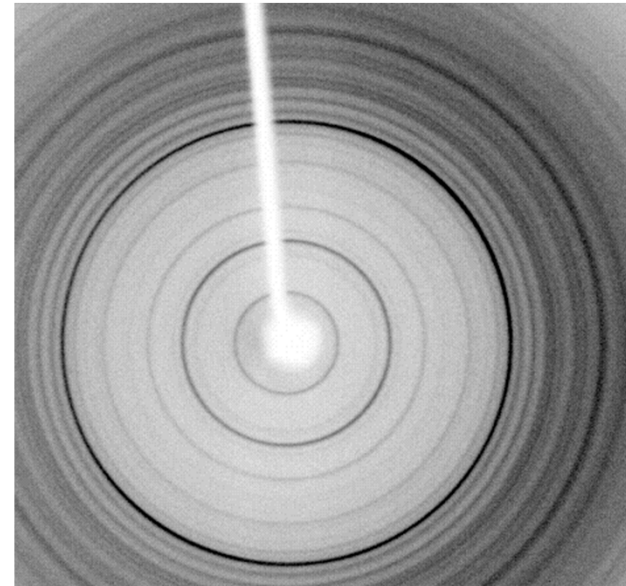
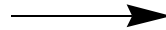
10-100 mM < 24 hr



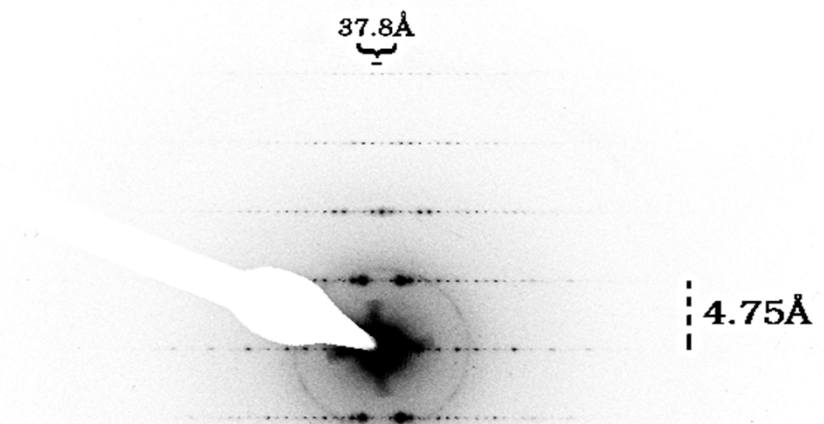
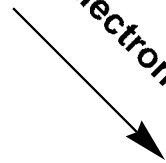
Crystal width = $\sim 280 \text{ \AA}$

Balbirnie et al. PNAS 2001

X-rays

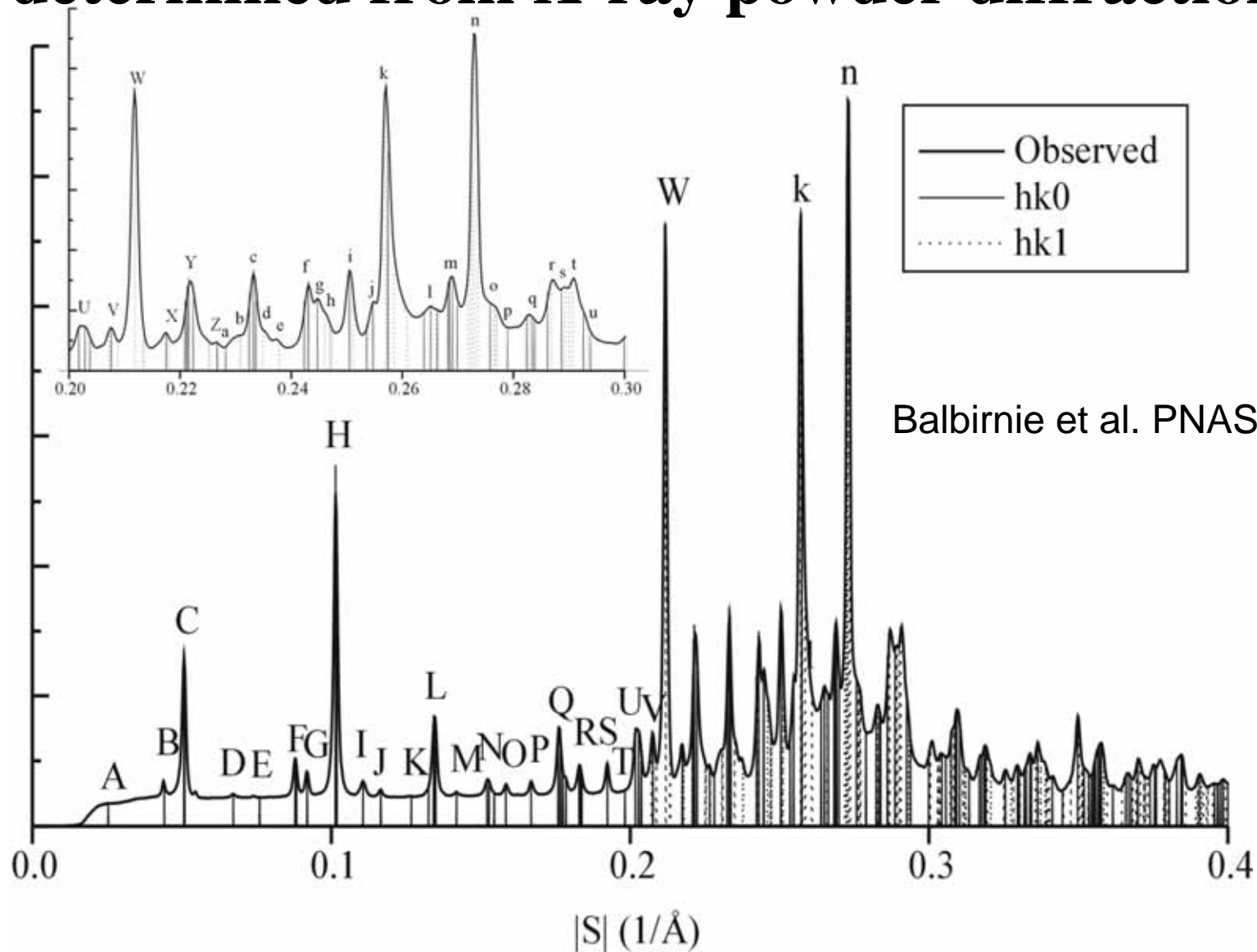


Electrons

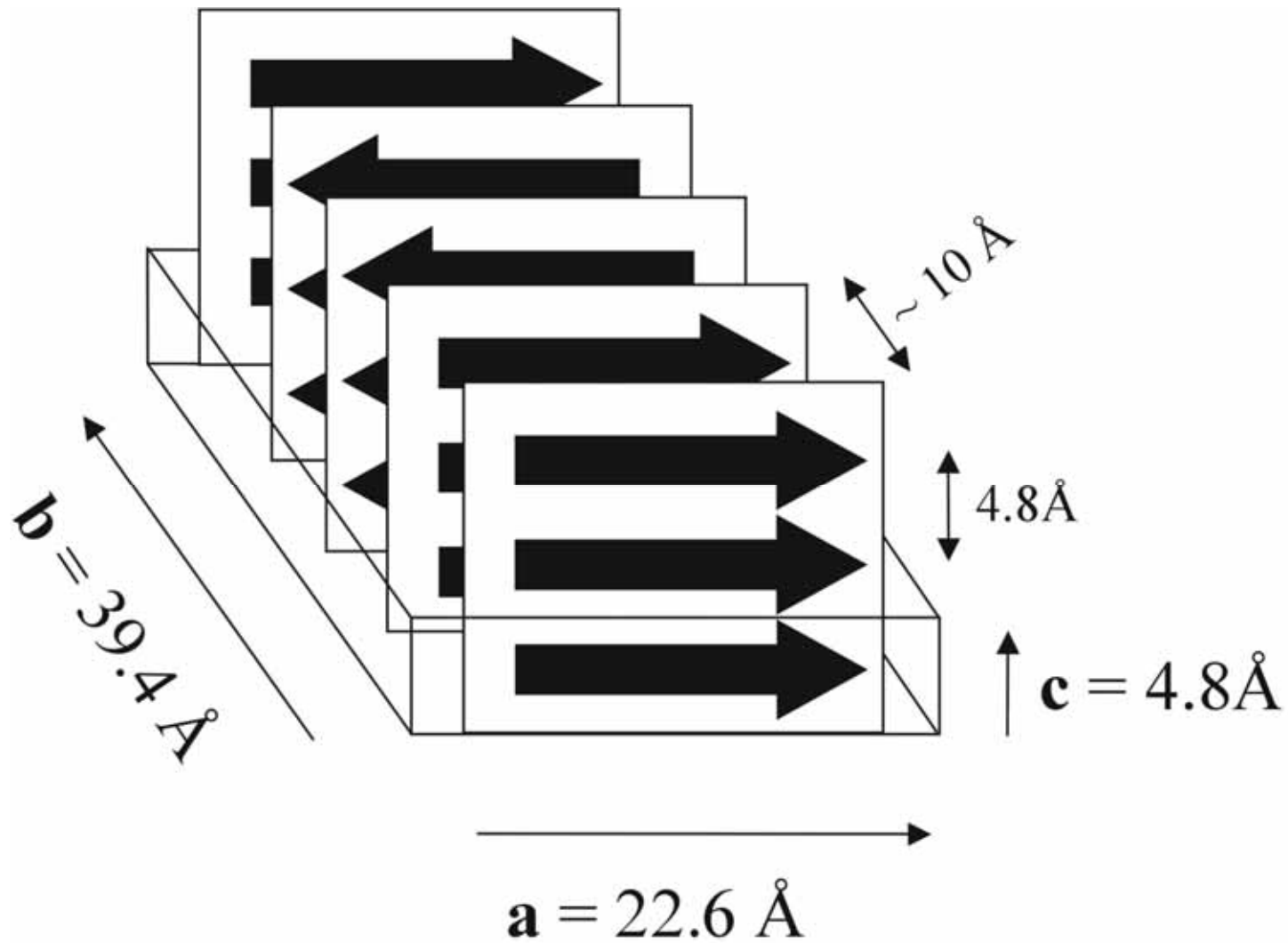


Research of Ruben Diaz & Donald Caspar

Crystal unit cell dimensions and space group determined from X-ray powder diffraction

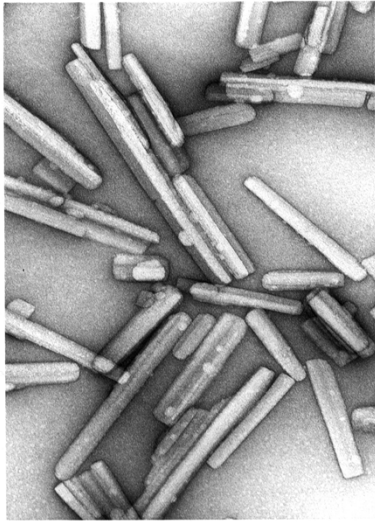


Packing of GNNQQNY peptides in microcrystals



Balbirnie, Grothe, & Eisenberg PNAS 2001

Microcrystals of Sup35 Peptide: GNNQQNY



- Density $\rho = 1.39 \pm .01 \text{ g}\times\text{cm}^{-3}$
- Unit cell volume = $4.23 \times 10^3 \text{ \AA}^3$
- $V_M = 1.26 \text{ \AA}^3/\text{Da}$
(Densest protein crystal so far observed)

From $nM = N\rho V$:

- 4 peptides/cell
- 11 ± 4 water molecules/cell

Conclusions:

- Numerous side chain H-bonds/peptide, other than to water
- Highly H-bonded
- The GNNQQNY amyloid is nearly anhydrous
- Dense network of hydrogen-bonded sidechains

Approaches to the Structure 2001-2005

X-ray powder diffraction -- ongoing

Textured X-ray powder diffraction -- ongoing

Electron diffraction-- ongoing

Solid-state NMR -- ongoing

Microfocus is required to reduce background noise

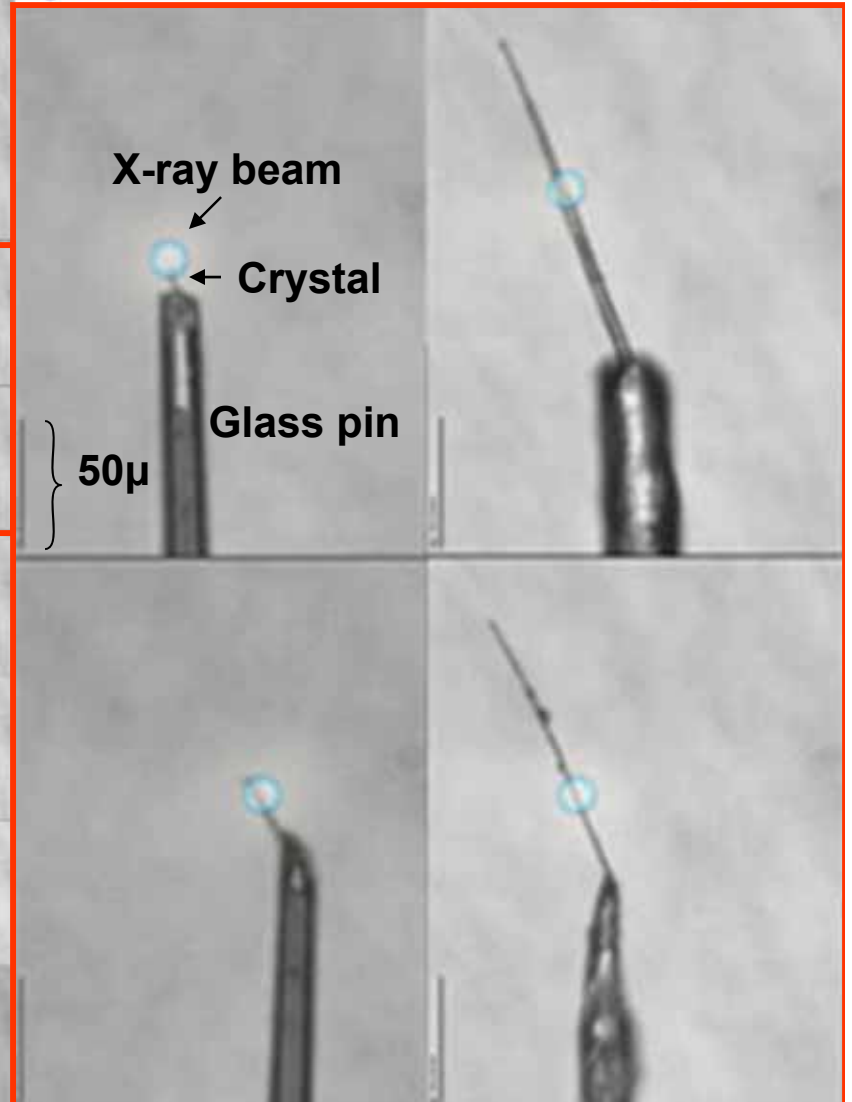
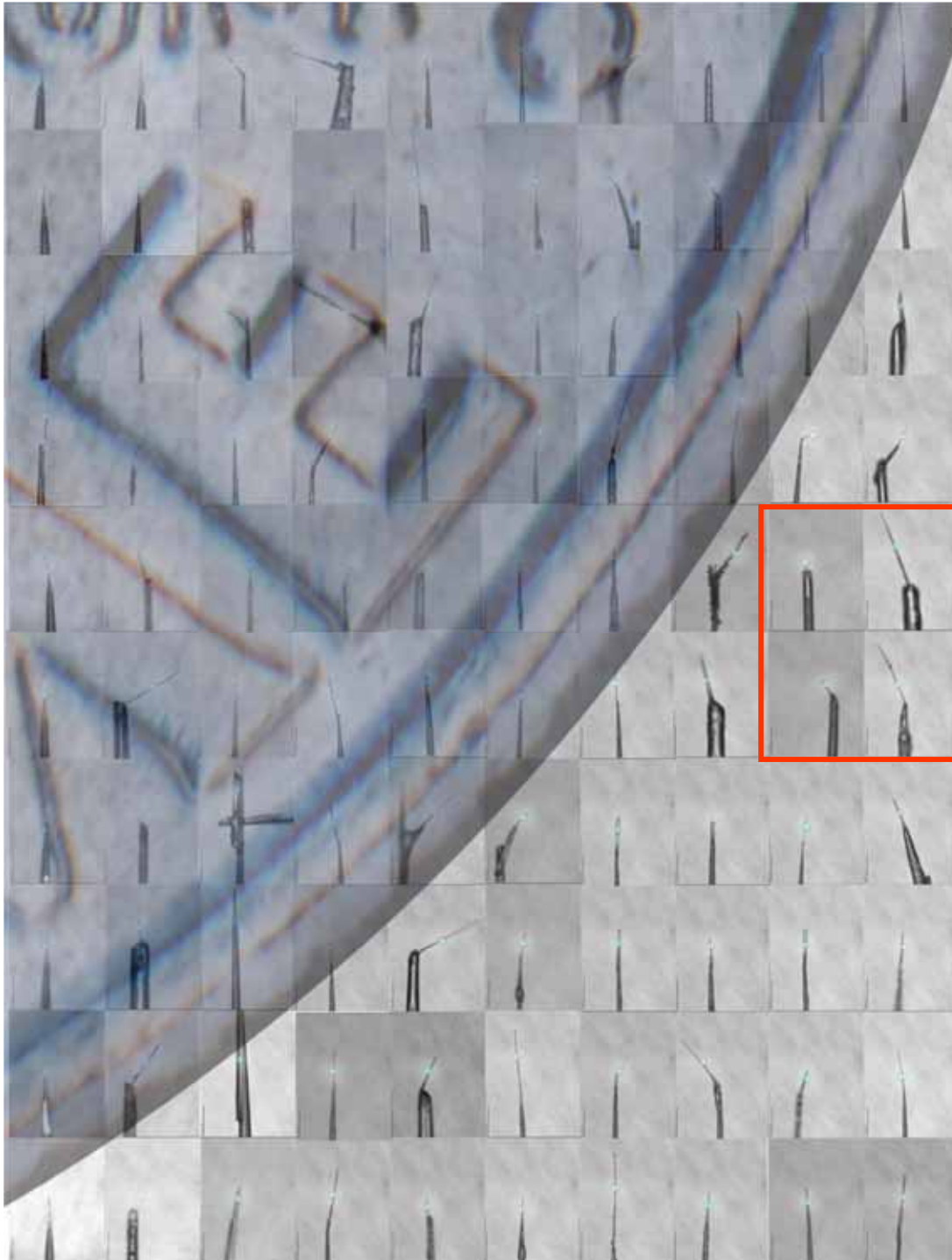


Christian Riekell

100 µm beam diameter
Standard at home or synchrotron
Only a fraction of incoming X-rays impinge crystal.
High background obscures reflections

1 µm beam diameter
ESRF ID13
All X-rays impinge crystal
Low background, good I/σ .

Microcrystals of segments of 12 amyloid-forming proteins have yielded >90 steric zippers



GNNQQNY, a dry steric zipper

Fibers and microcrystal have 50,000 layers

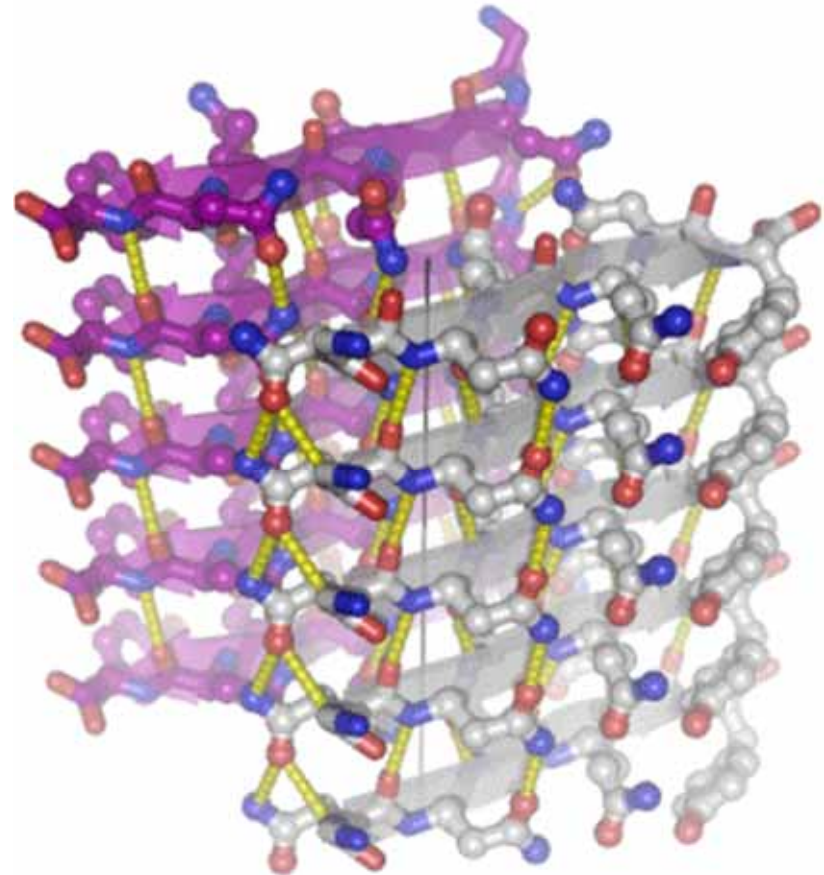
Extended strands, H-bonded 4.8Å
apart into in register β -sheets

Gln, Asn, Tyr sidechains also H-bonded

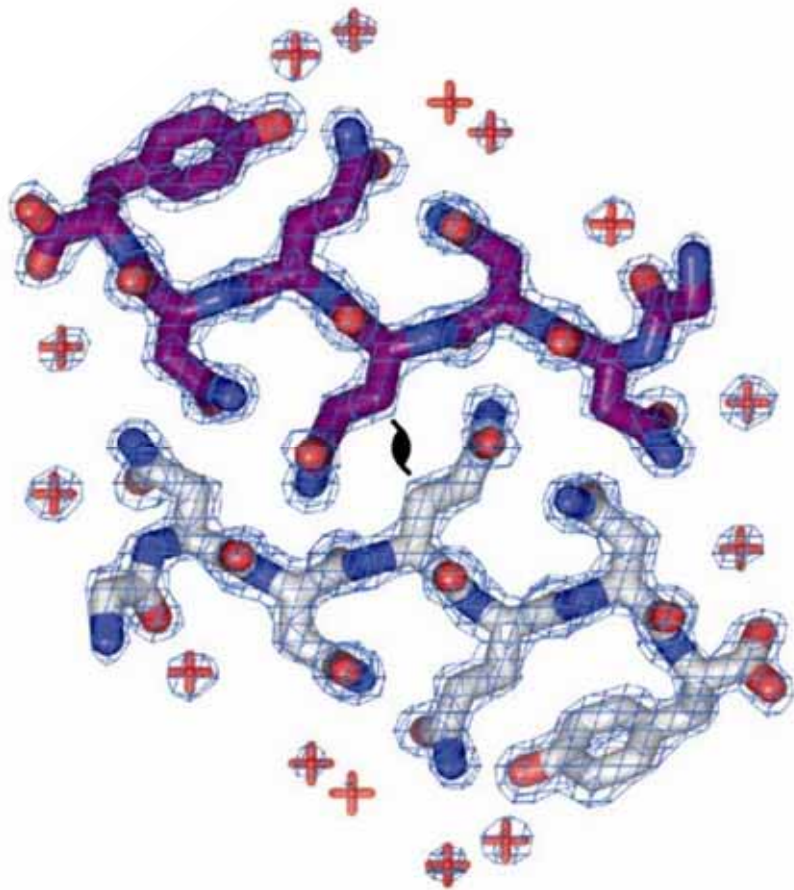
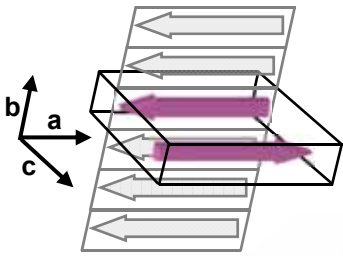
Two sheets, interdigitated, with tightly
complementary sidechains, bonded
by van der Waals forces

More tightly complementary than
any previous structure in PDB

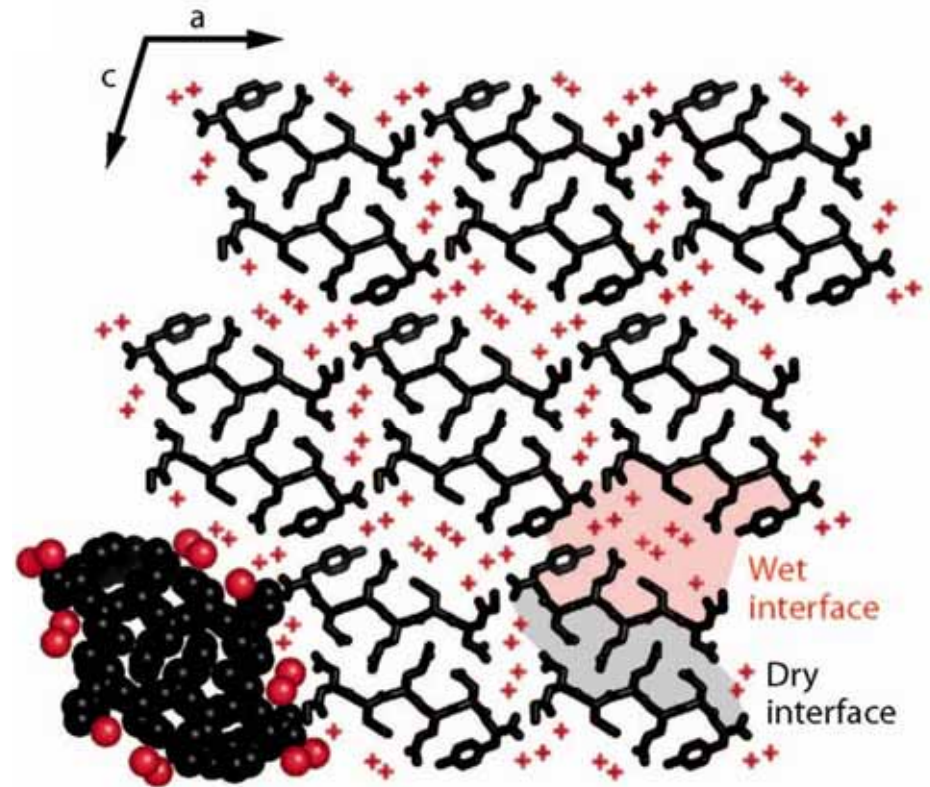
Dry between the β -sheets



View down the fibril axis shows self-complementary interactions between paired beta sheets of the steric zipper and weak interactions between pairs



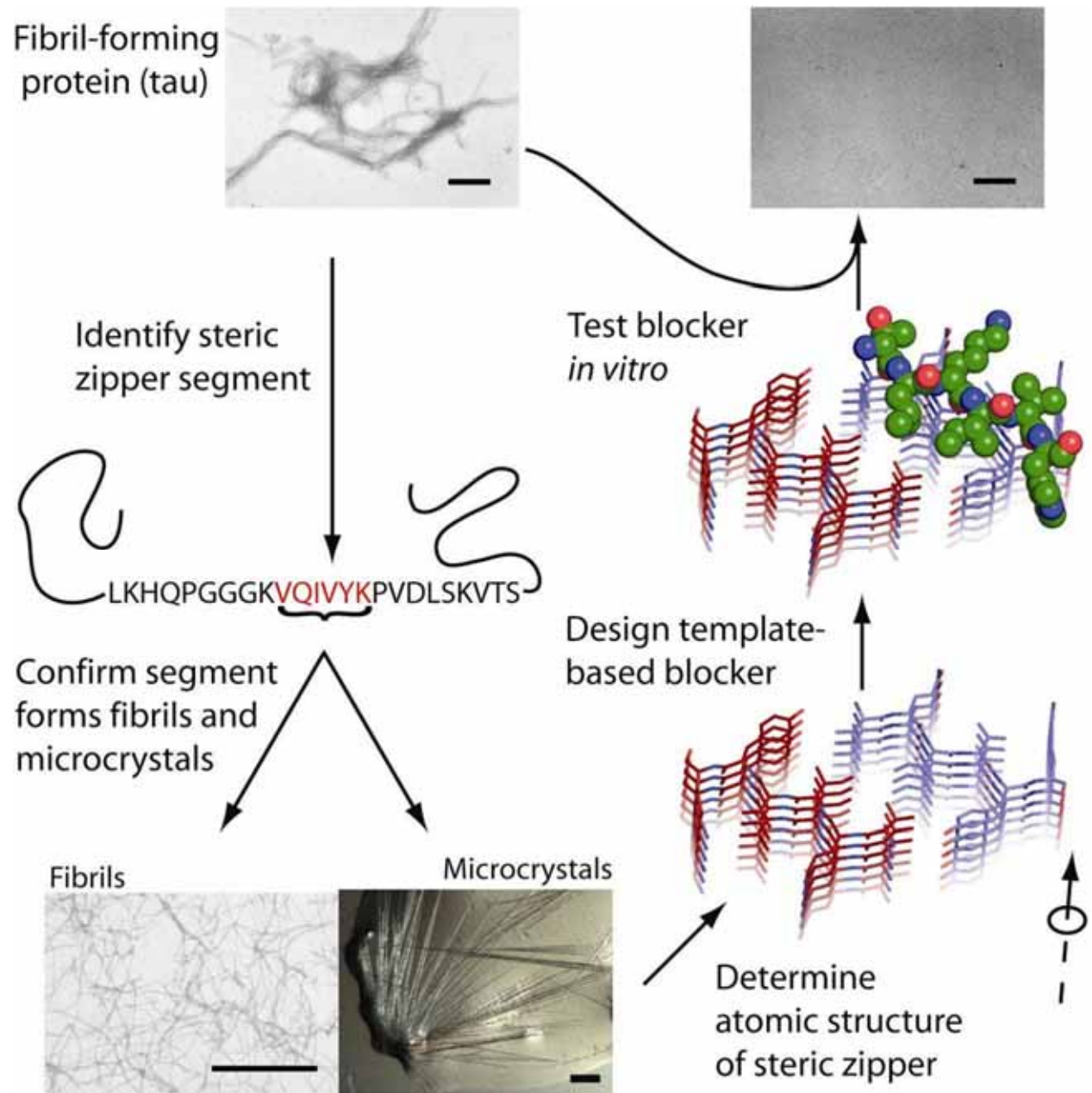
One unit cell



Nine unit cells

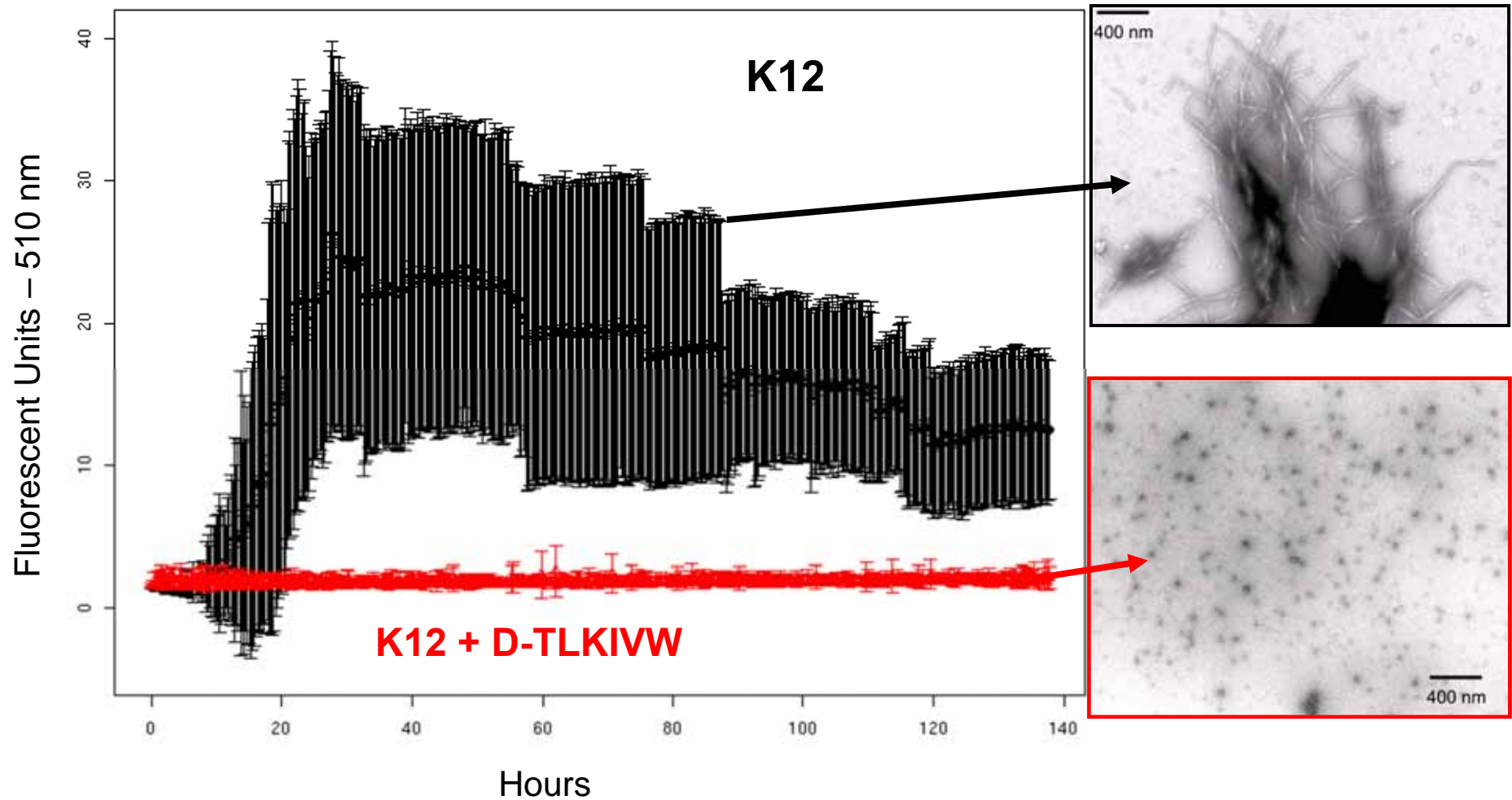
Nelson et al. Nature, 2005

Structure-based design of a blocker of fibril formation for Tau



Sievers et al.
Nature 2011

D-TLKIVW prevents fibril formation by Tau K12

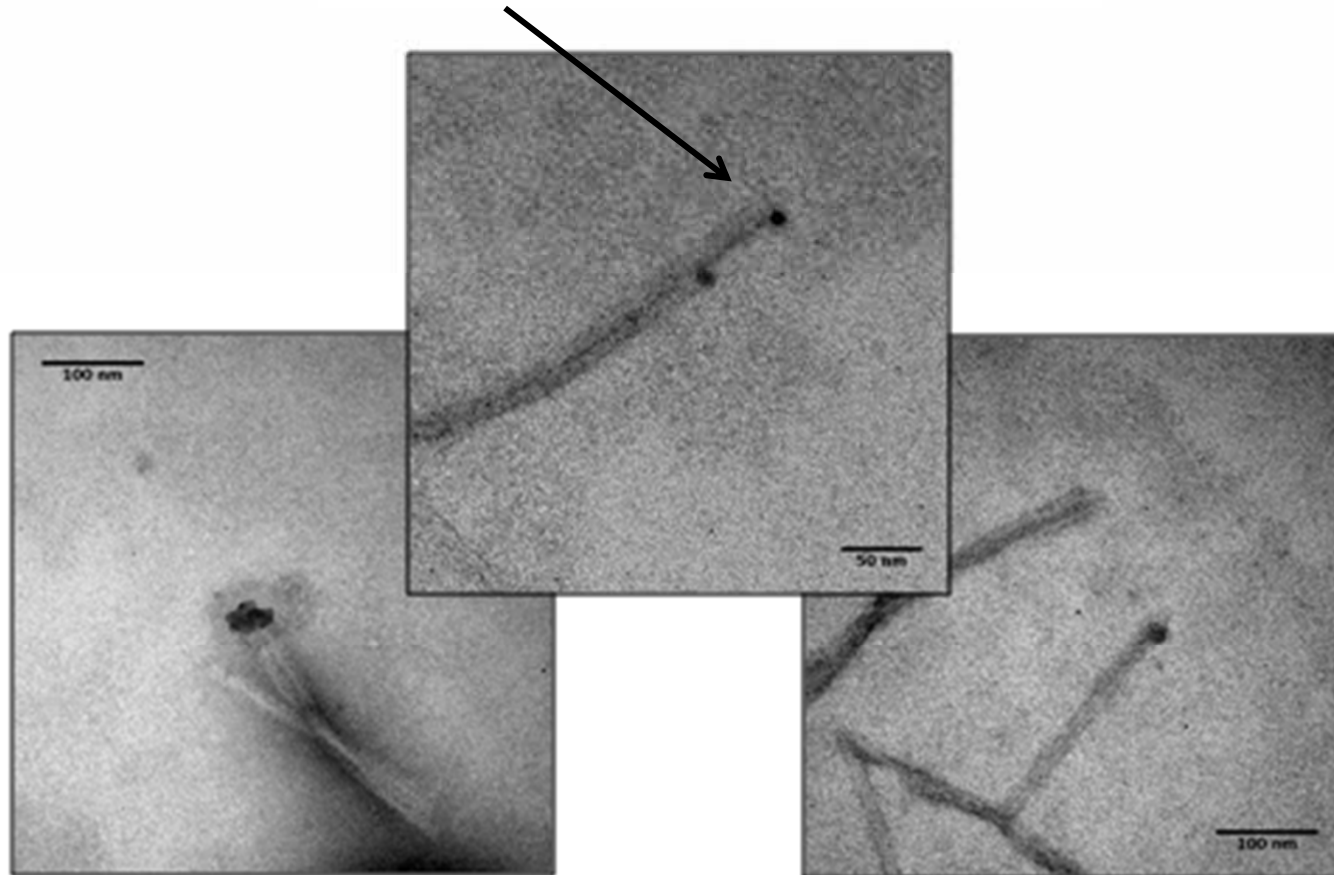


Research of Stuart Sievers & Howard Chang

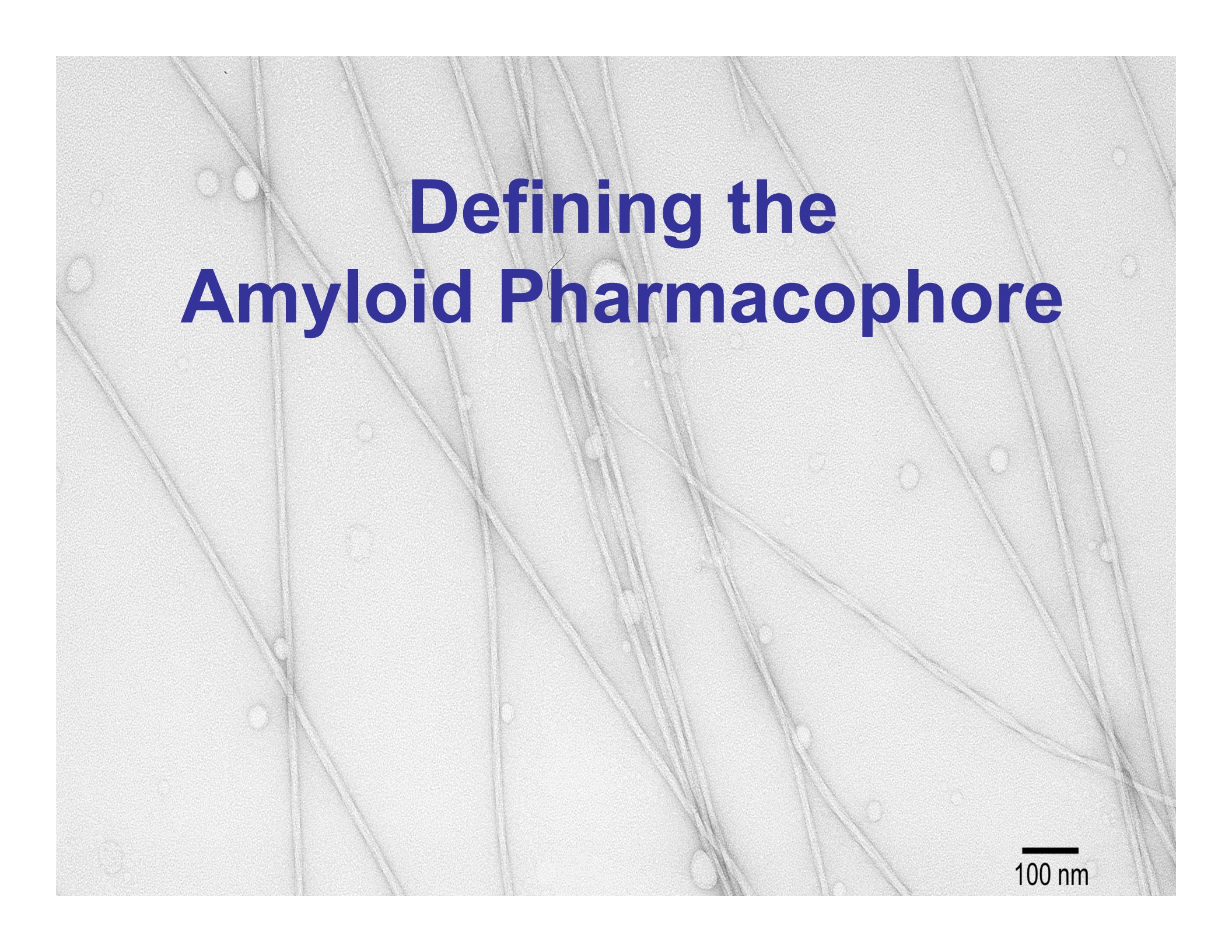
Nano-gold coupled to D-blocker binds to fibril ends

(Howard Chang)

NanoAu-CGG-TLKIVW

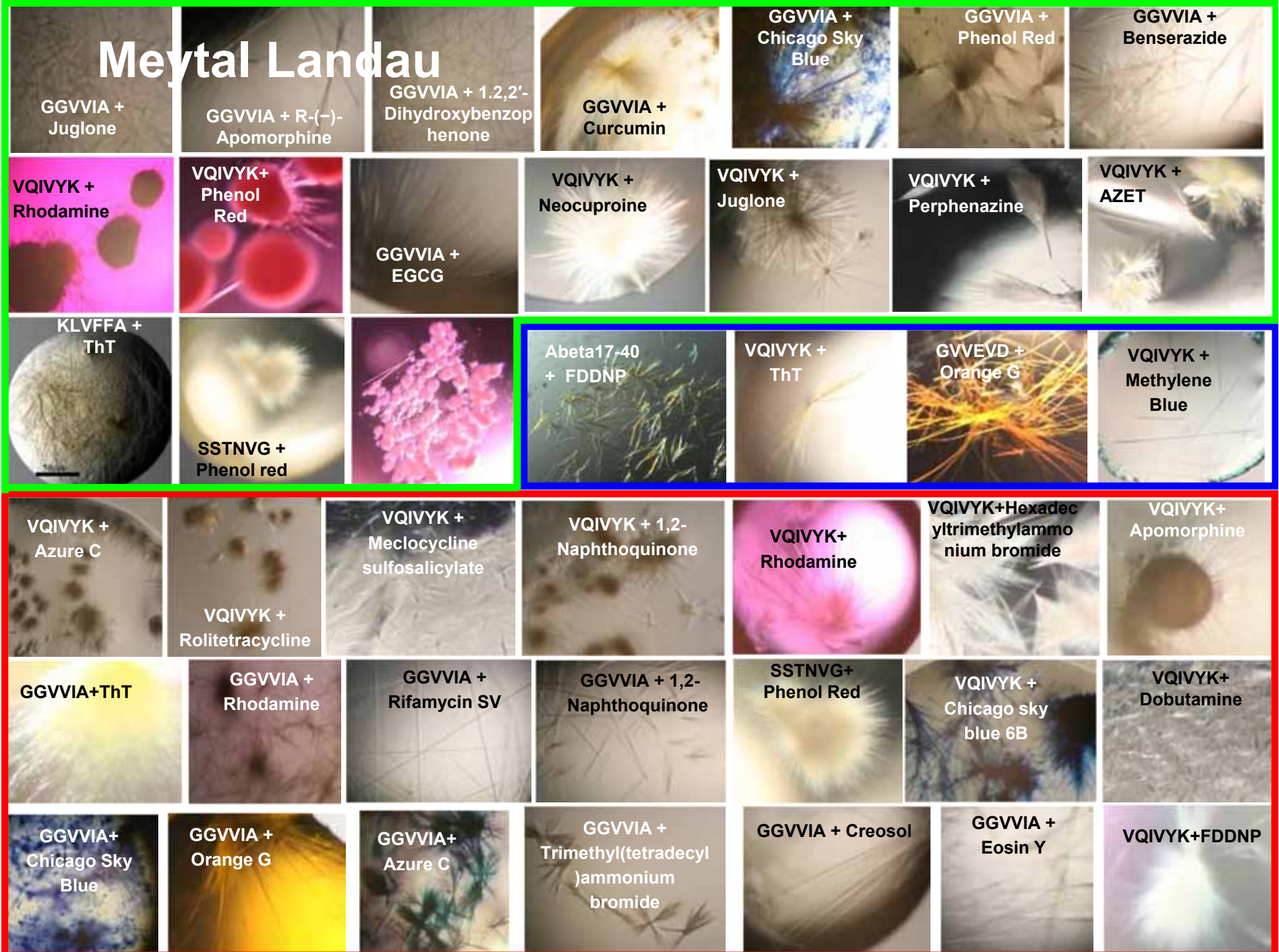


Defining the Amyloid Pharmacophore

The image is a grayscale electron micrograph showing numerous long, thin, and slightly curved amyloid fibrils. These fibrils are distributed across the field of view, with some appearing as single strands and others as small bundles. The background is a light gray, grainy texture. In the bottom right corner, there is a solid black horizontal scale bar, and directly below it, the text "100 nm" is printed in a black, sans-serif font.

100 nm

Meytal Landau



KLVFFA (from Amyloid Beta) + Orange G



Structure of KLVFFA with Orange G

KLVFFA + Orange G 5-10:1mM
10-30% w/v Polyethylene glycol 1,500,
20-30% v/v Glycerol

Rmerge = 18.4%; Resolution=1.8Å;
Completeness=96.4%

C2;

a, b, c 43.64 26.85 9.55Å;

β 91.55 °

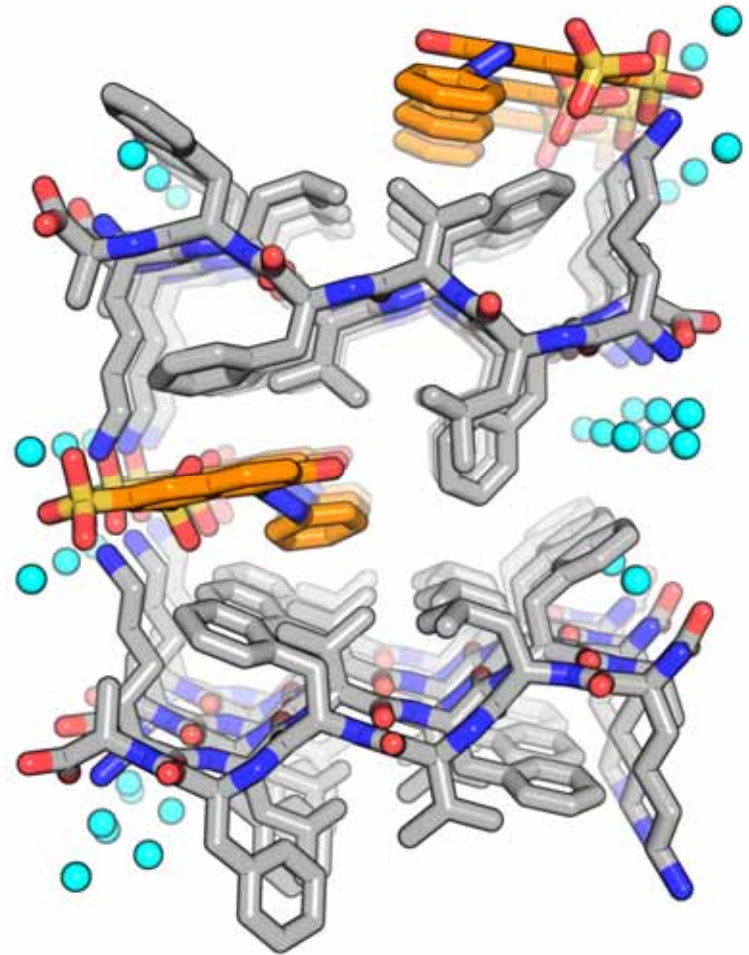
Rwork/Rfree(%)= 22.6/27.6

The asymmetric unit contains:

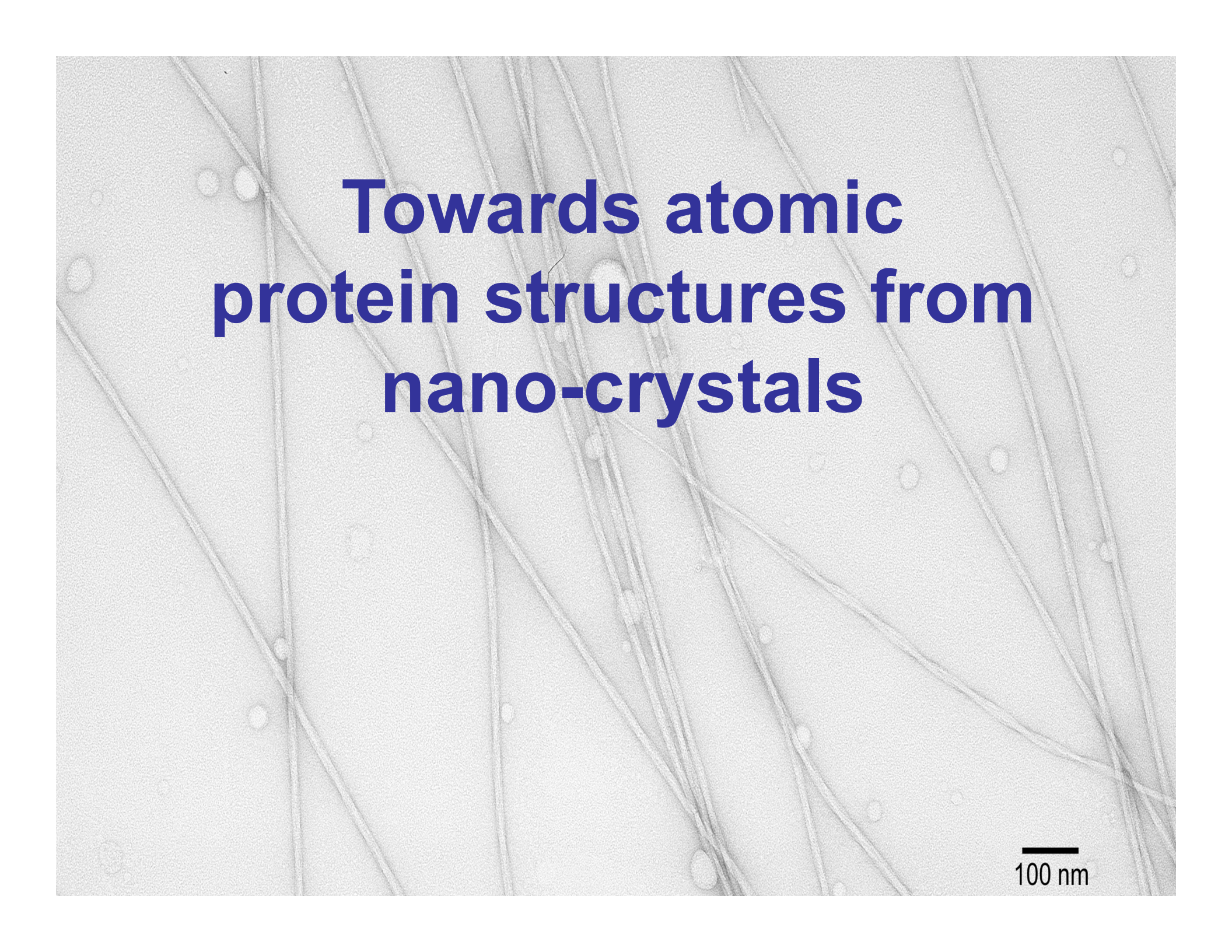
Two peptide segments

One Orange G

Six water molecules

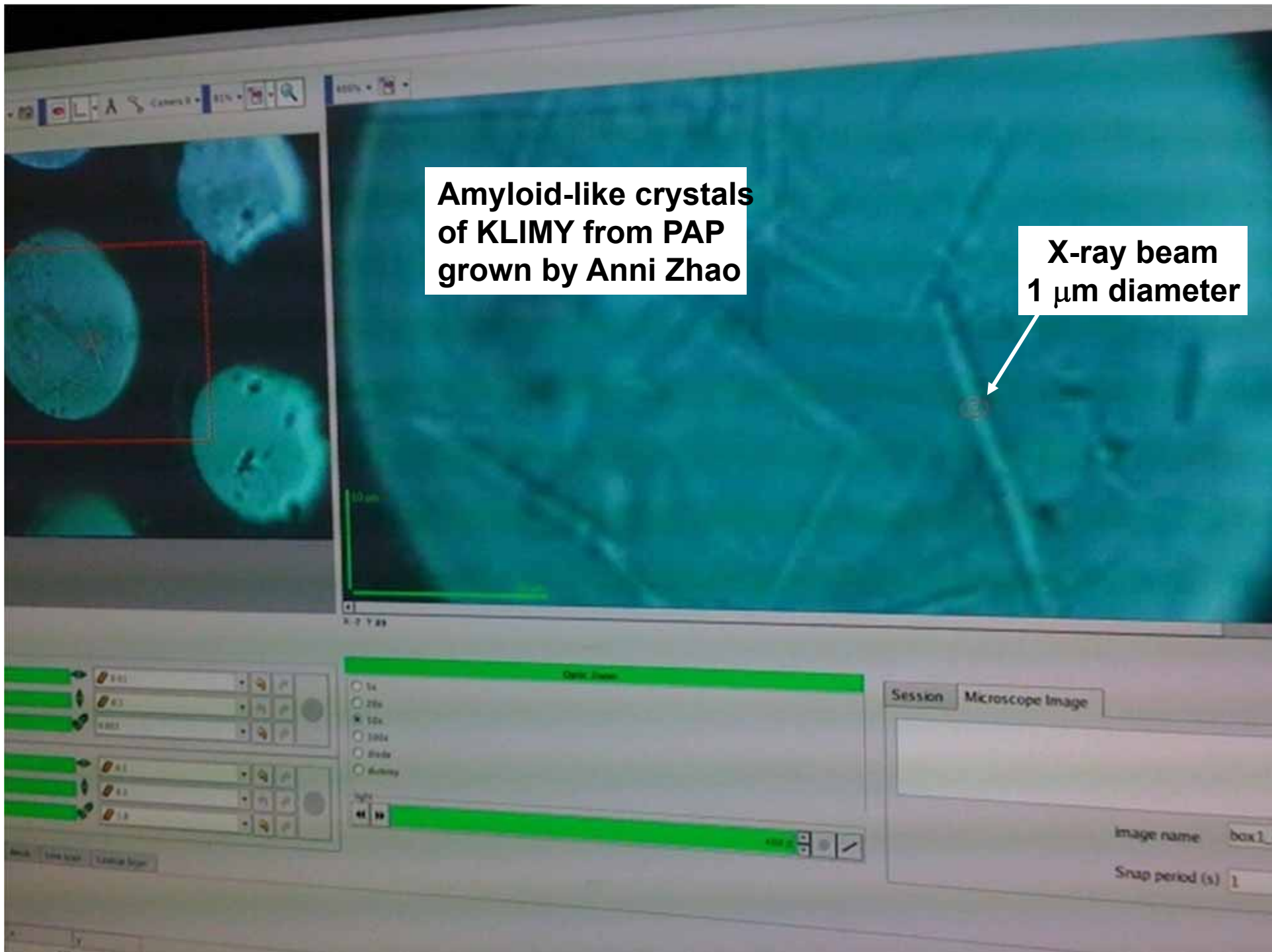


Landau et al. PLoS Biology
In press

The background of the slide is a grayscale electron micrograph showing numerous thin, parallel, and slightly curved protein nanowires. These nanowires are distributed across the field of view, with some appearing as single strands and others as small bundles. The nanowires have a consistent thickness and are set against a light gray, grainy background. In the bottom right corner, there is a scale bar consisting of a short horizontal black line above the text '100 nm'.

**Towards atomic
protein structures from
nano-crystals**

100 nm

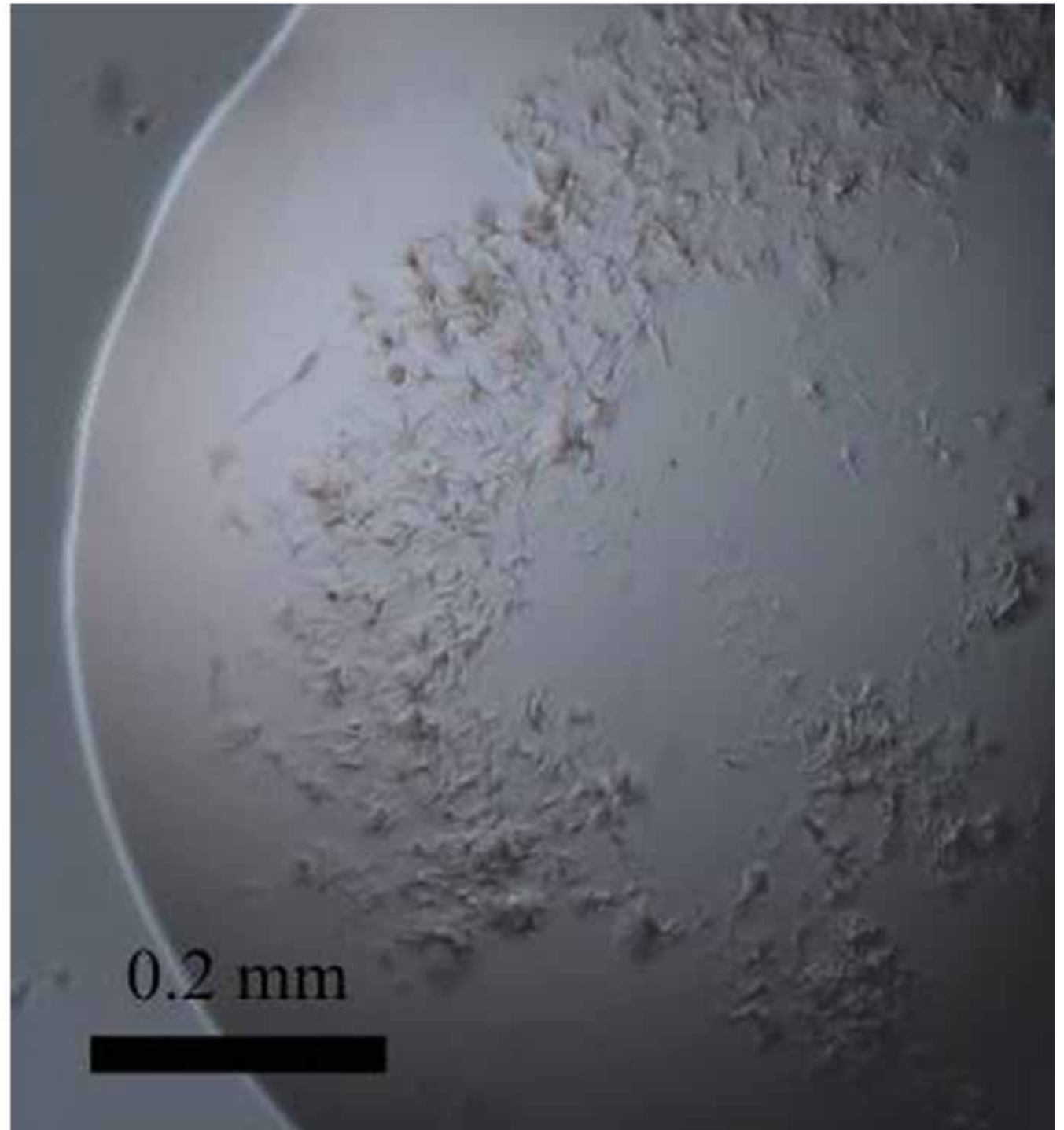
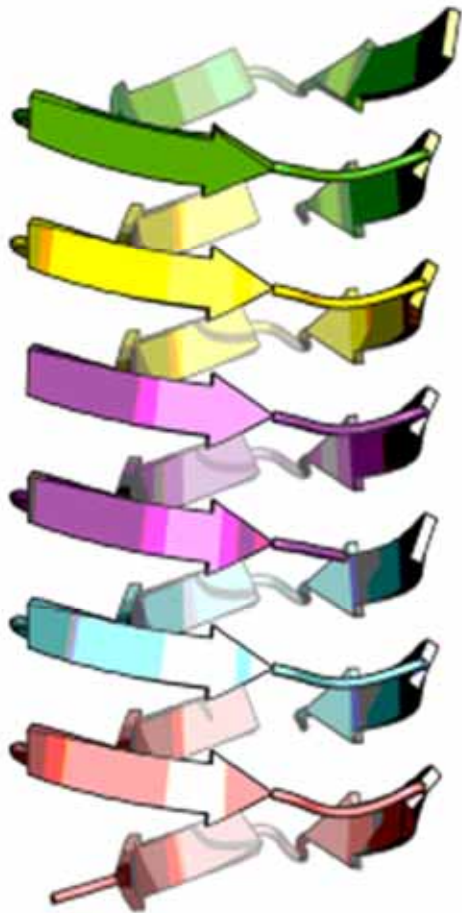


Amyloid-like crystals
of KLIMY from PAP
grown by Anni Zhao

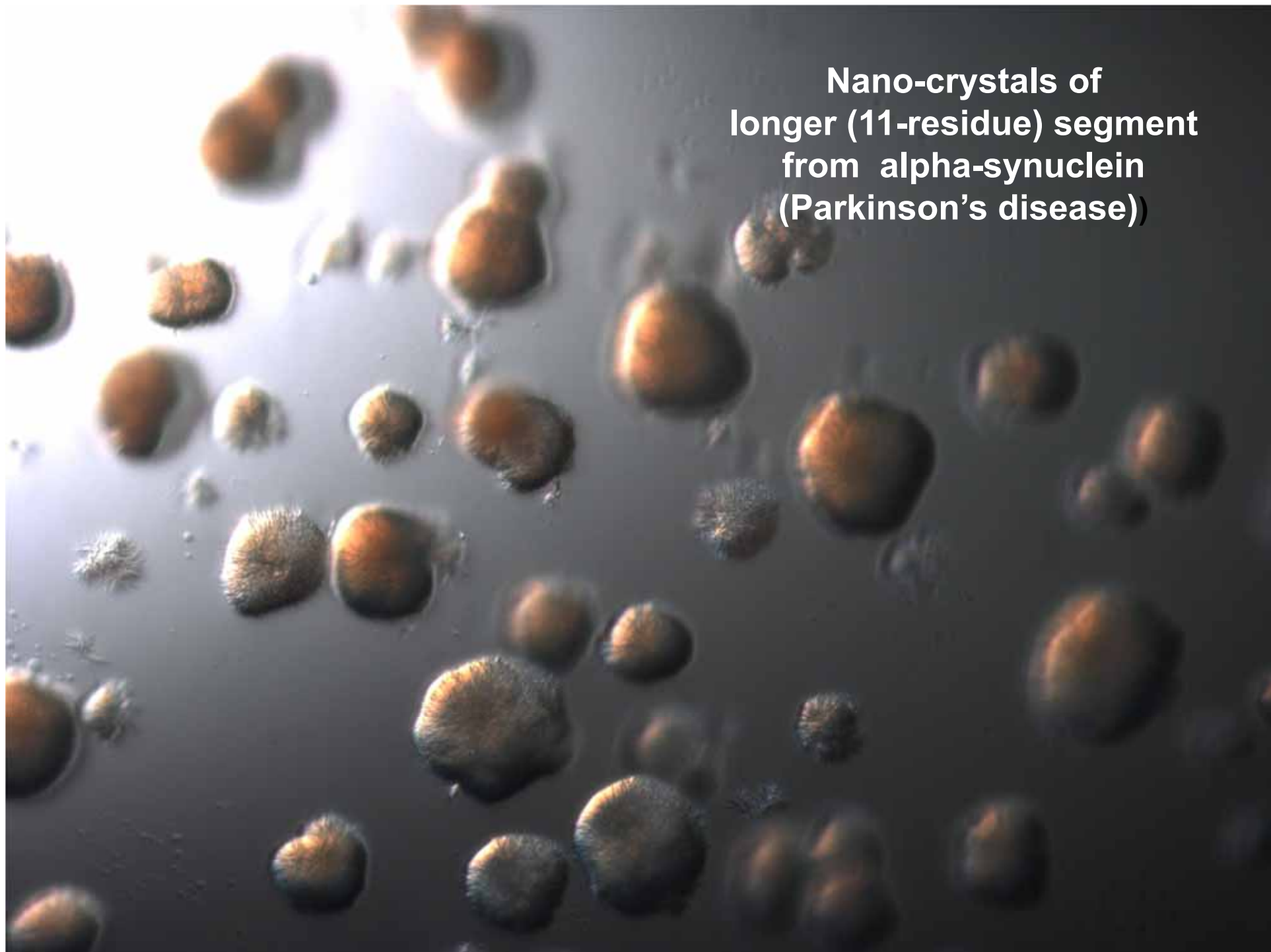
X-ray beam
1 μm diameter

A 3-sheet prion structure?


Only nanocrystals available



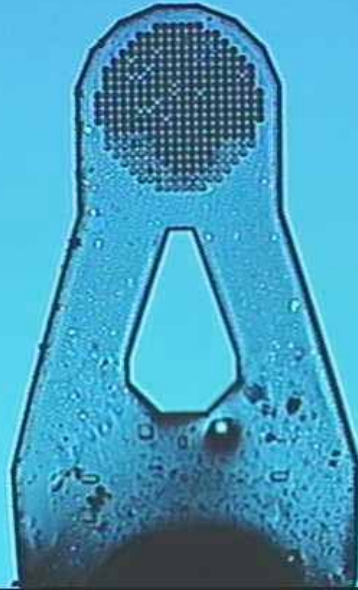
**Nano-crystals of
longer (11-residue) segment
from alpha-synuclein
(Parkinson's disease)**

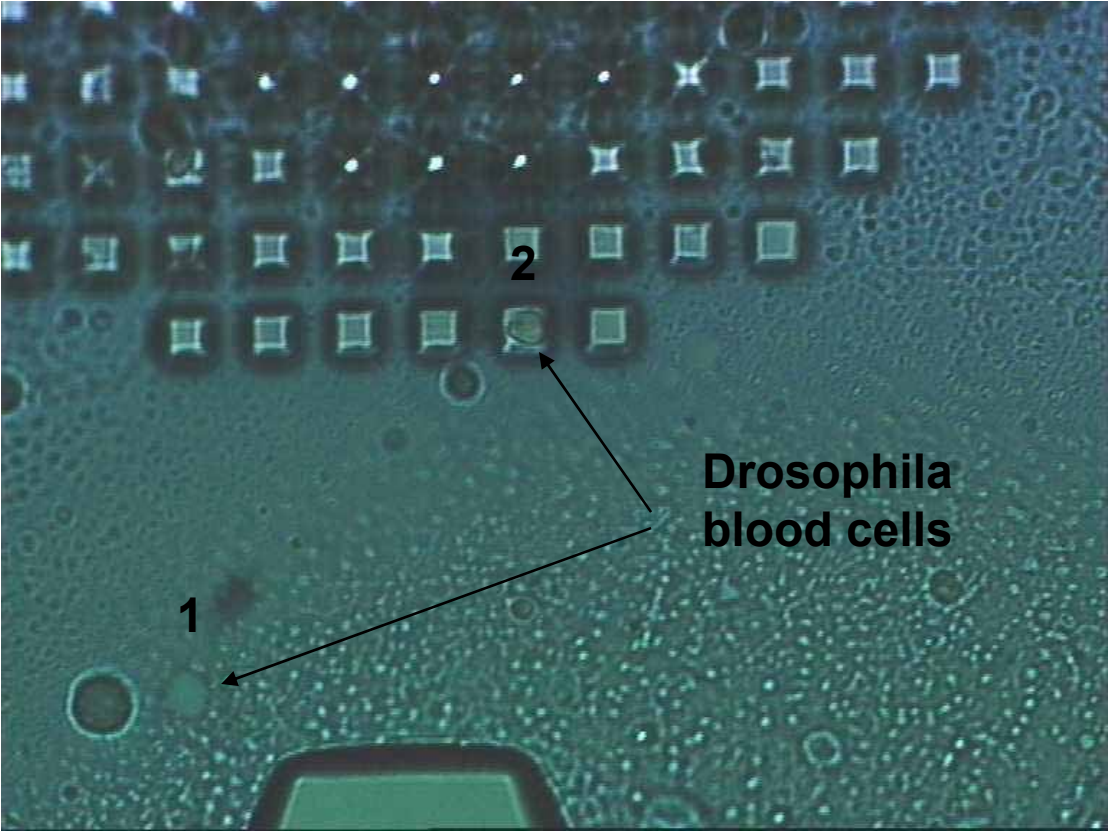


**Towards determining
structures of crystals and
other ordered protein
aggregates
found in human and other
animal cells**

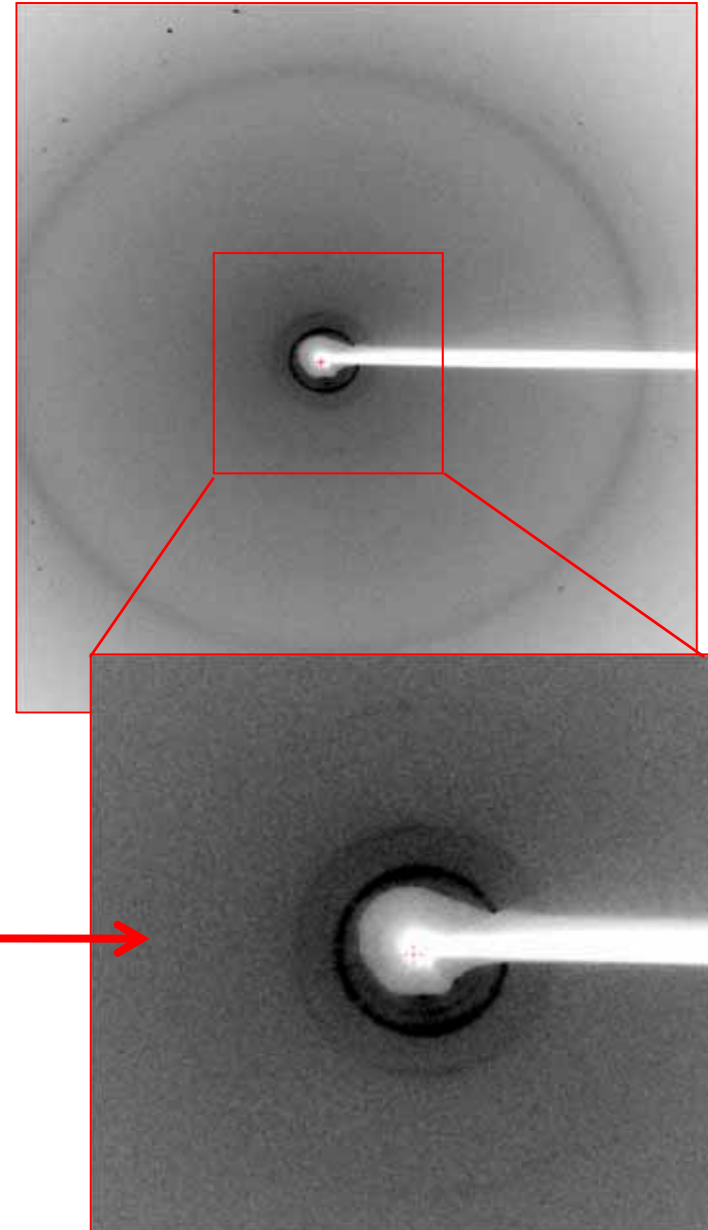
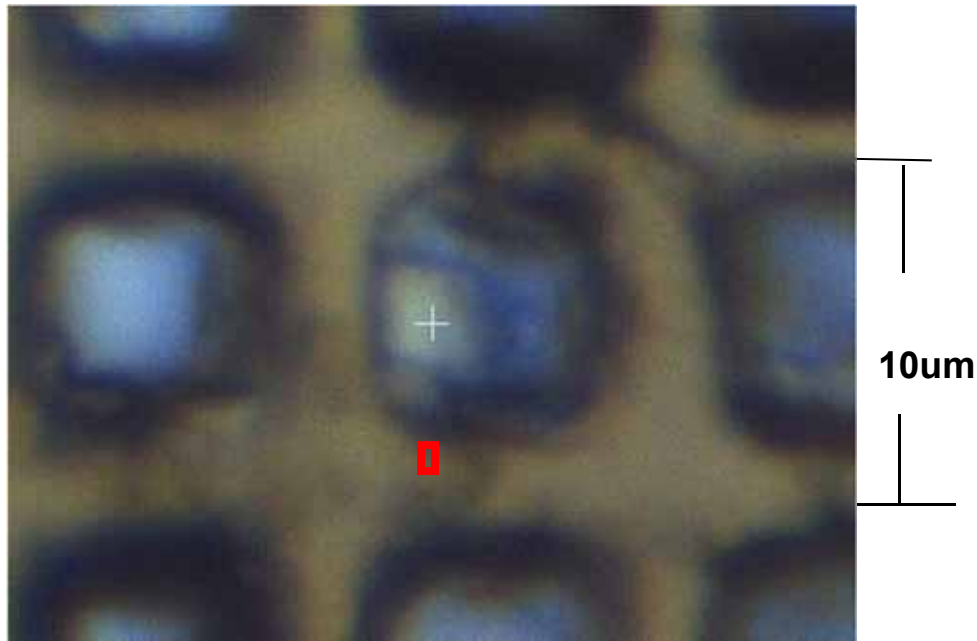

100 nm

**10 micron Mictigen micromesh in cryo-
stream**





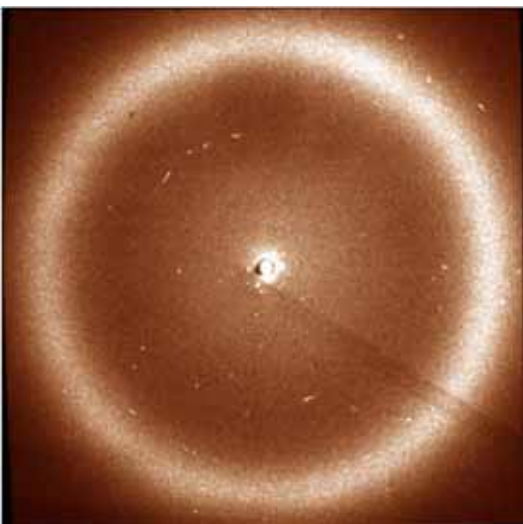
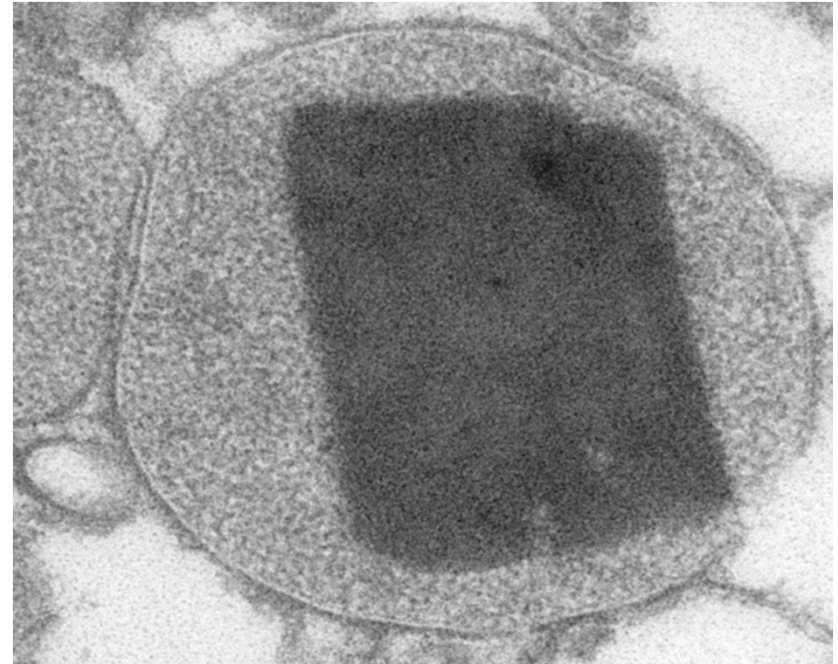
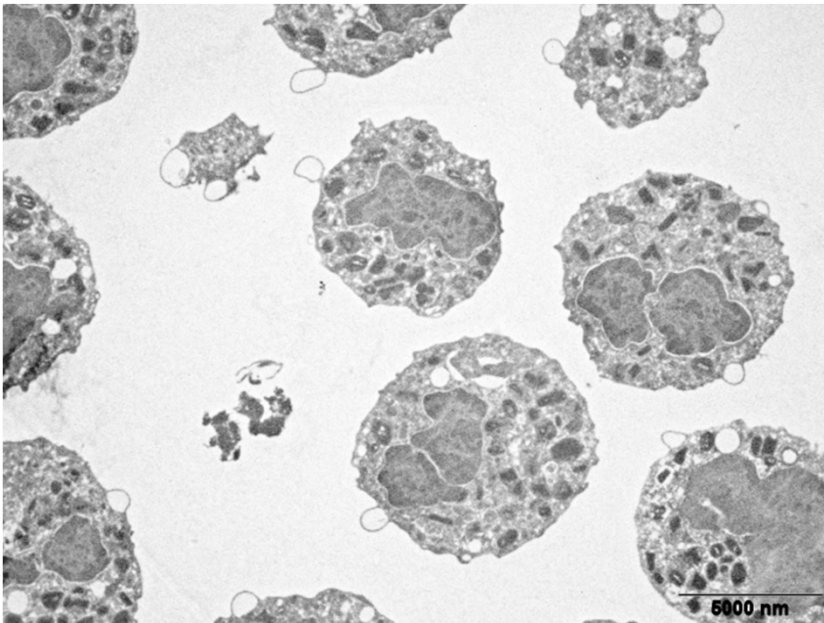
Drosophila crystal cell on 10 μm mesh



**The diffraction pattern reveals
powder rings at 50, 38, 26, 13,
4.2, and 3.7 \AA spacings**

**Michael Sawaya, Mari Gingery, Duilio Cascio
Group of Utpal Banerjee, UCLA
Jacques Colletier, Christian Riek, ESRF-IBS**

**Eosinophile (type of white blood cell) granules
Characterized by George Palade et al. (1965) by EM**




**Unit cell dimensions tentatively determined by
Alice Soragni, Jacques Colletier,
Manfred Brunner, Christian Riek**

Cell Types Containing Intracellular Crystalline Inclusions

Species	Cell type	Description of crystals	Protein	Reference
Drosophila	Crystal cells	Intracellular inclusions [lamellar]	Prophenol oxidase	(Shrestha & Gateff 1982); T. M. Rizki & R. M. Rizki 1980)
Human Rat Guinea pig Mouse	Eosinophil leukocytes	Membrane-bound granules [0.3-1.2 um] Granule cores [lamellar]	?	(Miller et al. 1966)
Human	B cell lymphomas	ER-bound crystal rods [lamellar]	Ig	(Peters et al. 1984)
Human	Abnormal mitochondria in muscle myopathies	Crystal rods in outer mitochondrial membrane compartment	Mitochondrial creatine kinase	(Stadhouders et al. 1994)
Human	Kidney mitochondria	Helical crystals in outer mitochondrial compartment; linear and flexuous crystals in matrix	?	Jasmin 1978
Human Dog Monkey	Liver mitochondria	Intramitochondrial [lamellar]	?	Wills 1965
Human	Ad5-infected KB cells	Intranuclear adenovirus-induced inclusions	heteromeric capsid protein formed of penton base and fiber subunits	(Franqueville et al. 2008); (Carstens et al. 1975)
Frog	Oocyte mitochondria	Intramatrix & intracristae inclusions [lamellar]	?	Spornitz 1972
Armadillo	Epididymus	Single membrane-bound cytoplasmic crystalline rods [lamellar]	?	(Edmonds et al. 1973)
Earthworm	Spermatazoa	Intranuclear inclusions [lamellar]	?	(Anderson et al. 1968)
Tomato	Young leaf mesophyll	Intracellular inclusions [Cubic]	?	Singh 1976
<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>	Causative agent of gastric diseases	Cytoplasmic paracrystalline inclusions	<i>Pfr</i> , bacterial ferritin	(Frazier et al. 1993)
<i>Photobacterium luminescens</i>	Entomopathogenic bacteria	Intracellular inclusions	<i>cipA</i> <i>cipB</i>	(Bintrim et al. 1998)
<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i>	Insecticidal bacteria	parasporal crystals	<i>Cry</i>	(Hofte et al. 1989)
<i>Paenibacillus popilliae</i>	Insecticidal bacteria	parasporal crystals	?	Weiner 1978
<i>Brevibacillus laterosporus</i>	Mosquitocidal bacteria	parasporal crystals	?	(Smimova et al. 1996); (Orlova et al. 1998)

Summary

- MX has enabled the determination of the atomic structures of the amyloid state, including design of inhibitors and partial definition of the amyloid pharmacophore
- MX offers the possibility of learning the atomic structure of ordered aggregates within biological cells


100 nm

The Amyloid State of Proteins

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Luki Goldschmidt, Heather Mcfarlane, Howard Chang, Anni Zhao
Lin Jiang, Jiyong Park, Jacques Colletier, Poh Teng, Boris Bhromstein
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ESRF: Christain Riekel **ETH:** Roland Riek, Alice Soragni



Mike Sawaya



**Melinda
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Rebecca Nelson



**Marcin
Apostol**



**Stuart
Sievers**



Jacques Colletier



**Duilio
Cascio**



**Art
Laganowsky
Meytal Landau**



**Luki
Goldschmidt**



Poh Teng

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