

Let's do the Twist - Chiral Information Transfer in Supramolecular Peptide Complexes

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INTRODUCTION

Chirality is inherent in nature from molecular to macroscales.^{1,2}

How this information is transferred is still poorly understood.³ A model system using the well documented inbuilt chirality of peptides is being used to investigate this phenomena.



AMINO ACIDS

L-Configuration in nature,

left-handed.

Point Chiral.

K AA KC

PRIMARY STRUCTURE Easily synthesised by SPPS. Chirality retained from the amino acids.



SECONDARY STRUCTURE Helices comprised of L-AA's are *right-handed*.^{4,5} Axially Chiral SUPRA-SECONDARY STRUCTURE Coiled-Coils display supercoiling with a *lefthanded* helical sense.6



SUPRA-MOLECULAR PEPTIDE ASSEMBLY Will there be supramolecular chirality?

PEPTIDE SEQUENCES



1aX-GQEIAAIKKEIAAIKKEIAAIKYG-NH2
d-efgabcdef1bAc-GQEIAAIKKEIAAIKKEIAAIKKEIAAIKYG-NH2

b control sequences have been omitted.

- ac-doelaalkkelaakkelaalkkelaalkkelaalkkelaalkkelaalkkelaalkkelaalkkelaalkkelaalk
- d-efgabcdef **3a** X-GGEIAAIKKEIAAIKKEIAAIKYG-NH2
- **4a** X-PEG-**EIAAIKK**EIAAIKKEIAAIKYG-NH2 gabcdef
- **5a** X-aQ**EIAAIKK**EIAAIKKEIAAIKYG-NH2 d-efgabcdef

All peptides are designed **3-heptad** homotrimeric coiled-coils and have been synthesised by microwave assisted **SPPS** and further functionalised on resin with a bipyridine (bpy, **X**) group at the N-terminus. All sequences have been tabulated below, except **1b** all other

- **6a** X-PQ**EIAAIKKEIAAIKKEIAAIKYG-NH2** *d-efgabcdef*
- 7a X-QEIAAIKKEIAAIKKEIAAIKYG-NH2 e-fgabcdef
- 8a X-EIAAIKKEIAAIKKEIAAIKKYG-NH2 f-gabcdef

9a X-IAAIKKEIAAIKKEIAAIKKEYG-NH2

- 10a X-AAIKKEIAAIKKEIAAIKKEIYG-NH2
- 11a X-AIKKEIAAIKKEIAAIKKEIAYG-NH2
- 12a X-IKKEIAAIKKEIAAIKKEIAAYG-NH2
- **13a** X-QKEIAAIKKEIAAIKKEIAAIYG-NH2 *d-efgabcd*

EFFECT OF METAL AND COUNTERION ON THE FORMATION OF CHIRAL PEPTIDE-BPY COMPLEXES

To investigate the relationship between the chirality of the secondary structure and the supramolecular bpy-peptide complex, peptide **1a** was titrated against a series of 1st row TMs.

EFFECT OF ACHIRAL LINKER ON THE FORMATION OF CHIRAL PEPTIDE-BPY COMPLEXES

To investigate the limits of the chiral effect of the peptide on the bpy-peptide complex peptides **1a-6a** with differing lengths of achiral spacer were titrated against **Zn(II)**.

EFFECT OF N-TERMINAL REGISTER POSITION ON THE FORMATION OF CHIRAL PEPTIDE-BPY COMPLEXES

To investigate the spacial requirements for the formation of the chiral bpy-peptide complex peptides **7a-13a** with systematically varied N-terminal register position were titrated against **Zn(II)**.

1a CD Titration with Co(II)



4a CD Titration with Zn(II)



7a and 13a CD Titrations with Zn(II)



Signal at 222

Cu(II)

ACHIRAL

CHIRAI

G A GG PEG A P

1 🗶 📈



Plots of the CD signals at 222 nm and 320 nm for all peptides allows the relationship between the bpy-complex and the helicity of the peptide to be observed.

DIFFERENT TMs



DIFFERENT LINKERS

MRE

222 nm -4000 -6000 -10000 -12000 -12000 -12000 -12000 -12000 -10000 -12000 -10000 -12000 -10000 -10000 -12000 -10000 -12000 -100000 -10000 -10000 -10000 -10000 -10000 -10000 -10000

DIFFERENT REGISTER POSITION



CONCLUSION Zn(II), Ni(II) or Co(II) appear to have the strongest

preferences for forming octahedral complexes.

CONCLUSION Distance from chiral centre should be no more than 7 atoms.

CONCLUSION *d* or *e* position preferred for attachment BUT will give preference for opposite handedness.

