





# Study of the largest and most heterogeneous macromolecular complex by HDX-MS, bringing new important mechanistic insights in proteasome regulation

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## **INTRODUCTION**

#### Background

The 20S proteasome is composed of four heptameric-stacked rings. It degrades proteins in a tightly controlled fashion, thereby directly regulating intracellular concentration of cytokines and hub proteins, and may generate immunogenic peptides. Alteration of its activity can lead to cancers, heart and auto-inflammatory diseases. It can be regulated by replacing its constitutive catalytic subunits and/or by interacting with different activators. However, whether its catalytic subunits composition favors the interaction with a particular regulator is still unclear.

#### Methods and Results

We utilized HDX-MS to investigate the impact of the catalytic subunit composition of the 20S on its structure and association to specific activators. Human standard and immuno proteasomes were deuterated alone or bound to the PA28 $\alpha\beta$ /PA28 $\gamma$  activators. We successfully optimized the classical HDX-MS workflow in terms of sample preparation, chromatography and MS acquisition to work on both poorly concentrated and very heterogeneous protein complexes. The average sequence coverage was excellent: 82% for twenty ~30kDa monomers. Our dataset suggests a reciprocal crosstalk between the inner and outer rings that not only represents a methodological breakthrough but also brings invaluable insights into the proteasome dynamics and regulation.



### Proteasome complexes diversity

## HDX-MS analysis of PA28 $\gamma$ vs. PA28 $\alpha\beta$



\* Strong protection of  $\alpha$ -helices 1-4



## Purified complexes characterized by proteomics and structural MS





\* Proteasome facing interface and channel entrance strongly deuterated \* PA28 $\gamma$  and PA28 $\alpha\beta$  models display very flexible loops forming an antechamber (confirmed by preliminary Cryo-EM data on PA28γ) collab. P. Bron, CBS, Montpellier.

> <sup>c</sup> Only difference observed in  $\alpha$ -helix 4 (more dynamic in PA28 $\alpha$  compared to PA28β and PA28γ)

> > Lesne J et al, (2019) In Preparation

## HDX-MS analysis of std20S vs. i20S shows subtle dynamics discrepancies



\* Faster and higher deuteration of the solvent facing  $\alpha$ -ring interface compared to any other ring

\* N-ter of  $\alpha$  subunits (channel entrance) are very accessible/

\* Other "dynamic patches"

N-ter of  $\alpha 1/2$  subunits more accessible/ dynamic in i20S

\* C-ter of  $\alpha$ 3 more dynamic in

## HDX-MS analysis of std20S and i20S with and without PA28 regulators





- Activation loop of PA28β
- Change in helix  $\alpha 1$  kink observed for PA28 $\gamma$  and PA28 $\alpha$
- Most protected regions found at the 20S facing interface \* C-ter of  $\alpha$ 3 highly protected PA28 $\alpha\beta$  and PA28 $\gamma$  in
- Subunits  $\beta 2/3/4$ , facing  $\alpha 3$ are less dynamic. Their other side ( $\beta$ - $\beta$  ring interface) is
- $\rightarrow$  Outer to inner ring allosteric

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acquisition, and data analysis steps had to be optimized for the analysis of such a large, heterogeneous and poorly concentrated sample. 4 pmol are required per timepoint (3.15 pmol injected).





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