Contents

Preface	XIX	
List of Co	ontributors	XXIII

1	The Amyloid Phenomenon and Its Significance 1
	Christopher M. Dobson
1.1	Introduction 1
1.2	The Nature of the Amyloid State of Proteins 1
1.3	The Structure and Properties of Amyloid Species 5
1.4	The Kinetics and Mechanism of Amyloid Formation 7
1.5	The Link between Amyloid Formation and Disease 9
1.6	Strategies for Therapeutic Intervention 11
1.7	Looking to the Future 14
1.8	Summary 15
	Acknowledgments 16
	References 16
2	Amyloid Structures at the Atomic Level: Insights from
	Crystallography 21
	Michael R. Sawaya and David Eisenberg
2.1	Atomic Structures of Segments of Amyloid-Forming Proteins 21
2.1.1	Protein Segments That Form Amyloid-Related Crystals 21
2.1.2	Atomic Structures of Fiber-Like Microcrystals 23
2.2	Stability of Amyloid Fibers 25
2.3	Which Proteins Enter the Amyloid State? 26
2.4	Molecular Basis of Amyloid Polymorphism and Prion Strains 27
2.5	Atomic Structures of Steric Zippers Suggest Models for Amyloid
	Fibers of Parent Proteins 28
2.6	Atomic Structures of Steric Zippers Offer Approaches for Chemical
	Interventions against Amyloid Formation 31
2.7	Summary 34
	Acknowledgments 36
	References 36



Contents

3	What Does Solid-State NMR Tell Us about Amyloid Structures? 39 Wolfgang Hoyer and Henrike Heise
3.1	Introduction 39
3.2	Principles of Solid-State NMR Spectroscopy and Experiments for Structural Constraints 40
3.2.1	Isotope Labeling, Magic Angle Spinning, Dipolar Coupling, and Resonance Assignment 40
3.2.2	Defining the Amyloid Core by Magnetization Transfer from Water 43
3.2.3	Determining the Fibril Registry 43
3.2.4	Seeded versus Unseeded Fibrils 44
3.3	Amyloid Fibrils Investigated by Solid-State NMR Spectroscopy 45
3.3.1	Aβ peptides of Different Length 46
3.3.2	Islet Amyloid Polypeptide (IAPP/Amylin): Parallel and Antiparallel Steric Zippers 47
3.3.3	α-Synuclein: Polymorphism with Flexible Terminal Regions 49
3.3.4	PrP: Rearrangements to Maintain a Fibrillar Core Region 51
3.3.5	Yeast Prions with Glutamine/Asparagine-Rich Prion Domains: Sup35p, Ure2p, and Rnq1p 52
3.3.6	Functional Amyloid: the Yeast Prion HET-s 52
3.4	Summary 53
	References 54
4	From Molecular to Supramolecular Amyloid Structures: Contributions from Fiber Diffraction and Electron Microscopy 63
	Kyle L. Morris and Louise C. Serpell
4.1	Introduction 63
4.2	History 65
4.2.1	The Historical Use of X-ray Fiber Diffraction 65
4.2.2	The Historical Use of Transmission Electron Microscopy 67
4.3	Methodology 68
4.3.1	X-Ray Fiber Diffraction 68
4.3.2	Transmission Electron Microscopy 72
4.4	Recent Advances in Amyloid Structure Determination 73
4.4.1	X-ray Fiber Diffraction 73
4.4.2	Transmission Electron Microscopy 76
4.5	Summary 78
	Acknowledgments 79
	References 79
5	Structures of Aggregating Species by Small-Angle X-Ray Scattering 85 Cristiano L. P. Oliveira and Jan Skov Pedersen
5.1	Introduction 85
5.2	Theoretical and Experimental Aspects 85
5.3	Data Analysis and Modeling Methods 88

5.4	Studying Protein Aggregation and Fibrillation Using SAXS 91
5.4.1	Some General Considerations 91
5.4.2	SAXS Studies of Insulin, Glucagon, and α-Synuclein 92
5.4.3	SDS-Induced Aggregation of α-Synuclein 96
5.4.4	Multi-Component Fitting and Analysis of SAXS Data 97
5.5	General Strategies for Modeling SAXS Data from Protein
	Complexes 98
5.6	Summary and Final Remarks 100
	Acknowledgments 101
	References 101
6	Structural and Compositional Information about Pre-Amyloid
	Oligomers 103
	Niels Zijlstra and Vinod Subramaniam
6.1	General Introduction 103
6.2	Biophysical Techniques to Study Amyloid Oligomers 104
6.2.1	Fluorescence Spectroscopy 104
6.2.1.1	Ensemble Spectroscopy 105
6.2.1.2	Single-Molecule Spectroscopy 105
6.2.2	Atomic Force Microscopy 107
6.2.3	Absorbance and Circular Dichroism Spectroscopy 108
6.2.4	Small-Angle X-Ray Scattering 108
6.2.5	Mass Spectrometry 109
6.3	The Structure and Composition of Amyloid Oligomers 109
6.3.1	α-Synuclein Oligomers 109
6.3.1.1	Morphology 110
6.3.1.2	Oligomer Structure 111
6.3.1.3	Oligomer Composition 113
6.3.2	Aβ Peptide Oligomers 115
6.3.2.1	Morphology 115
6.3.2.2	Composition 116
6.4	Concluding Remarks 116
	Acknowledgments 118
	References 118
7	The Oligomer Species: Mechanistics and Biochemistry 127
	Massimo Stefani
7.1	Introduction 127
7.2	The Structure-Toxicity Relation of Early Amyloids 128
7.2.1	Antibodies Define Different Structural Classes of Oligomers and Fibrils 128
7.2.2	Proteins May Form Different Kinds of Oligomers with Different Structural and Biological Activities 129
7.3	The Oligomer-Membrane Complex 131
7.3.1	The Effect of Surfaces on Protein Misfolding and Aggregation 131

X	Contents

7.3.2	The Membrane Composition Affects Binding and Aggregation Processes 132
7.3.3	Complex Roles of Cholesterol and Gangliosides in Oligomer Cytotoxicity 133
7.4	Biochemical Modifications Underlying Amyloid Toxicity 134
7.4.1	A New View of the Amyloid Cascade Hypothesis 134
7.4.2	Amyloid Pores: a Mechanism for Cytotoxicity? 135
7.4.3	Other Mechanisms for Oligomer Cytotoxicity 137
7.4.3.1	Oxidative Stress and Amyloid Aggregates 138
7.4.3.2	Lipid Modification and Ca ²⁺ Entry 139
7.4.3.3	The Complexity of Amyloid and Oligomer Polymorphism 140
7.5	Summary 141
7.3	References 141
8	Pathways of Amyloid Formation 151
	Francesco Bemporad and Fabrizio Chiti
8.1	Introduction 151
8.2	Nomenclature of the Various Conformational States 152
8.3	Graphical Representations of the Mechanisms Leading
	to Amyloid 153
8.3.1	Time Course of Amyloid Content 153
8.3.2	Energy Landscapes of Amyloid Fibril
	Formation 155
8.3.3	Reaction Equilibria Involved in Amyloid Fibril Formation
	157
8.4	Pathways of Amyloid Fibril Formation 159
8.5	Nucleation Growth versus Nucleated Conformational
	Conversion 161
8.6	Summary 163
	References 163
9	Sequence-Based Prediction of Protein Behavior 167
	Gian Gaetano Tartaglia and Michele Vendruscolo
9.1	Introduction 167
9.2	The Strategy of the Zyggregator Predictions 167
9.2.1	Prediction of the Effects of Amino Acid Substitutions on Protein
	Aggregation Rates 168
9.2.2	Prediction of the Overall Aggregation Rates of Peptides and
	Proteins 170
9.2.3	Prediction of Aggregation-Prone Regions in Amino Acid Sequences 171
9.3	Aggregation Under Other Conditions 173
9.3.1	Prediction of Protein Aggregation-Prone Regions in the Presence
	of Denaturants 173

9.3.2	Prediction of Aggregation-Prone Regions in Native States of Proteins 173
9.4	Prediction of the Cellular Toxicity of Protein
	Aggregates 174
9.5	Relationship to Other Methods of Predicting Protein Aggregation
	Propensities 175
9.6	Competition between Folding and Aggregation of Proteins 177
9.7	Prediction of Protein Solubility from the Competition between
	Folding and Aggregation 177
9.7.1	Sequence-Based Prediction of Protein Solubility 178
9.7.2	Prediction of the Solubility of Proteins Based on Their Cellular
	Abundance 178
9.8	Sequence-Based Prediction of Protein Interactions with Molecular
	Chaperones 179
9.9	Summary 179
	References 180
10	The Kinetics and Mechanisms of Amyloid Formation 183
	Samuel I. A. Cohen, Michele Vendruscolo, Christopher M. Dobson,
	and Tuomas P. J. Knowles
10.1	Introduction 183
10.2	Classical Theory of Nucleated Polymerization 184
10.2.1	From Microscopic Processes to a Master Equation 184
10.2.2	Kinetic Equations for Experimental Observables 187
10.2.3	Characteristics of Oosawa-Type Growth 189
10.2.3.1	Nucleation
	and Growth Occur Simultaneously 189
10.2.3.2	The Early Stages of the Reaction Time Course Are Described
	by Polynomial Growth 189
10.2.3.3	The Late Stages of the Reaction Time Course are Described by Simple
	First-Order Kinetics 190
10.2.3.4	The Integrated Rate Laws Exhibit Scaling Behavior 191
10.2.4	Global Analysis of Experimental Data Using the Oosawa
	Theory 192
10.3	The Theory of Filamentous Growth with Secondary Pathways 193
10.3.1	Extending the Oosawa Framework to Include Fragmentation
	and Secondary Nucleation 193
10.3.2	Early Time Perturbative Solutions 195
10.3.3	Characteristics of Exponential-Type Growth 196
10.3.3.1	The Early Stages of the Reaction Time Course Are
	Exponential 196
10.3.3.2	The Solution Exhibits Scaling Behavior 198
10.3.4	Global Analysis of Experimental Data Using Linearized
	Solutions 198

XII	Contents
-----	----------

10.4	Self-Consistent Solutions for the Complete Reaction Time Course 200
10.4.1	The Key Phenomenological Parameters Depend on Combinations of the Microscopic Rate Constants 202
10.4.2	Reaction Time Course with Depleted Monomer Concentration 202
10.4.3	Global Analysis of Amyloid Reaction Kinetics Using Self-Consistent
10.1.5	Solutions 204
10.5	Summary 205
10.5	References 205
11	Fluorescence Spectroscopy as a Tool to Characterize Amyloid
	Oligomers and Fibrils 211
	Per Hammarström, Mikael Lindgren, and K. Peter R. Nilsson
11.1	Introduction 211
11.2	Fluorescence Spectroscopy for Studies of Amyloid Reactions In vitro 212
11.2.1	Fluorescence Output Formats 212
11.2.2	Fluorescence Anisotropy 212
11.2.3	Single Molecule Detection 214
11.2.4	Conformational Probes 214
11.3	Cysteine-Reactive Fluorescent Probes 214
11.3.1	Environmentally Sensitive Probes – Spectrochromic Stokes
	Shift Assay 214
11.3.2	Fluorescence Anisotropy Probes for Amyloid
	Oligomerization 216
11.3.3	Pyrene Excimer Formation Probes for amyloid Oligomer and Fibril
	Topology 217
11.3.4	Bifunctional Cysteine Reagents as Probes for Amyloid Oligomers
	and Fibrils 217
11.4	Amyloidotropic Probes for Amyloid Fibrils and Oligomeric
	States 218
11.4.1	Are There Selective Probes for Prefibrillar Oligomeric States? 223
11.4.2	Fluorescence Anisotropy of Small Molecule Probes for Capturing
	the Intermediate Oligomeric State 224
11.4.3	In vivo Fluorescent Probes for Amyloid Fibrils 225
11.5	Luminescent Conjugated Poly and Oligothiophenes
	LCPs and LCOs 228
11.5.1	Optical Properties of Chemically Defined LCOs 228
11.5.2	Bridging the Imaging and Spectroscopy Gap – Microspectroscopy
44 5 5	of In vivo Formed Amyloids 230
11.5.3	Bridging the Imaging and Spectroscopy Gap: Microspectrosopy and
44 5 4	Real Time Imaging of Amyloid Formation 232
11.5.4	New Nanoscopic and Multifunctional Fluorescence-Based Imaging
	Technologies 234

11.5.5	LCOs for Optical <i>In vivo</i> Imaging of Protein Aggregates in Transgenic Mouse Models 234
11.6	Summary 236
	Acknowledgments 237
	References 239
12	Animal Models of Amyloid Diseases 245
	Stanislav Ott and Damian C. Crowther
12.1	Introduction 245
12.2	Some Big Questions Regarding Amyloid Diseases and Some Answers from Animal Models 247
12.3	Identifying the Toxic Species in the Systemic Amyloidoses 248
12.4	Identifying the Toxic Species in Alzheimer's Disease 250
12.5	Infectious Protein Misfolding 252
12.5.1	Bona fide Prion Disease 254
12.5.2	Prion-Like Diseases 254
12.6	Conclusions 256
	References 257
13	The Role of Aβ in Alzheimer's Disease 263
	Timothy M. Ryan, Blaine R. Roberts, Victor A. Streltsov, Stewart D.
	Nuttall, and Colin L. Masters
13.1	History of Amyloidosis 263
13.1.1	Early Reports of Amyloidosis 263
13.1.2	Origins of Modern Definition of Amyloid 264
13.2	Biochemistry of Aβ 264
13.2.1	Identification of the Alzheimer's Amyloid Subunit 265
13.2.2	The Production and Processing of the Aβ Peptide 267
13.3	Amyloid Fibrils 268
13.3.1	Synthetic Structural Studies 268
13.3.2	In vivo Fibrillar Structure 269
13.4	The Soluble Oligomer Theory of AD 269
13.4.1	The Development of the Soluble Oligomer Theory of AD 269
13.4.2	Soluble Oligomers In vivo 270
13.4.3	Recombinant Soluble Oligomers 271
13.4.4	Synthetic Aβ Soluble Oligomers 271
13.5	Other Factors Involved in Amyloid Plaque Formation in AD 274
13.5.1	Interactions with Lipids and Membranes 275
13.5.2	Electrostatic Membrane Interactions 275
13.5.3	Integral Membrane Interactions 276
13.5.4	Other Lipid Interactions 277
13.5.5	Apolipoprotein Interactions 277
13.5.6	Receptor Interactions 277
13.6	Metal Ions in AD 278

XIV	Contents	
	13.6.1	Cu/Aβ Interactions 278
	13.6.2	Zn/Aβ Interactions 279
	13.6.3	Fe/Aβ Interactions 279
	13.6.4	Other Metals Involved in AD 279
	13.7	Other Potential Aß Interactions 280
	13.8	Other Neurodegenerative Diseases 280
	13.9	Conclusion 280
		References 281
	14	Experimental Approaches to Inducing Amyloid Aggregates 295
		Lise Giehm and Daniel Otzen
	14.1	The Need for Reproducible Fibrillation Assays 295
	14.2	Setting Up an Assay to Monitor Fibrillation 296
	14.3	Conditions That Promote Protein Aggregation 298
	14.3.1	Formation of an Aggregation-Competent Amyloidogenic
	1422	Precursor 303
	14.3.2	Assembly of Aggregation-Prone Complexes via Additives Such as
	1422	Surfactants or Lipids 308
	14.3.3	Ability to Recruit Native-Like Monomers by an "Infectious"
	1424	State 309
	14.3.4	Minor Conformational Changes in an Essentially Native-Like Precursor 311
	14.3.5	
	14.3.3	Promotion of Elongation and Nucleation Steps through
	14.3.6	Fragmentation 311 Miscellaneous Effects 312
	14.3.0	
	14.5	Processing and Batch Differences 312 Toward High-Throughput Assays 313
	14.6	Summary 314
	17.0	References 314
		References 514
	15	Fibrillar Polymorphism 321
		Marcus Fändrich, Melanie Wulff, Jesper Søndergaard Pedersen,
		and Daniel Otzen
	15.1	Detection of Fibrillar Polymorphism 321
	15.2	The Structural Definition of Fibril Polymorphism 322
	15.2.1	Inter-sample Polymorphism 322
	15.2.2	Intra-Sample Polymorphism 326
	15.2.3	Deformations from Ideal Helical Symmetry 326
	15.3	The Two Classes of Fibril Polymorphism 328
	15.3.1	Protofilament Assembly Polymorphisms: Different Orientations
		and Different Numbers of Protofilaments 328

15.3.1.1

15.3.1.2

15.3.2

Different Orientation 328

Structures 329

Different Numbers of Protofilaments 328

Protofilament Substructure Polymorphisms and Composite Fibril

15.4	How Does Fibrillar Polymorphism Arise? 332
15.5	The Interconversion of Fibril Polymorphs 334
15.6	The Biological Implications of Fibril Polymorphism 335
15.7	Summary 337
	Acknowledgments 338
	References 338
16	Inhibitors of Amyloid and Oligomer Formation 345
	Nikolai Lorenzen, Erich E. Wanker, and Daniel Otzen
16.1	Introduction: Amyloidoses versus Neurodegenerative Diseases 345
16.1.1	Antibody-Mediated Immunotherapy 346
16.1.1.1	Active Immunization 346
16.1.1.2	Passive Immunotherapy 348
16.1.1.3	The Blood Brain Barrier 349
16.1.2	Nucleic Acid-Based Agents against Protein Aggregates 349
16.1.3	Inhibition of Amyloid Formation by Small Molecules 350
16.1.3.1	Stabilizing the Native State 350
16.1.3.2	Structural Properties of Fibrillation Inhibitors 350
16.1.3.2.1	Unspecific Effects by Colloidal Agents 356
16.1.3.3	Polyphenols: a Potent Class of Amyloid Inhibitors 357
16.1.3.3.1	Epigallocatechin Gallate: the Universal Amyloid-Inhibitor? 357
16.1.3.4	Promoting Fibrillation to Avoid Toxic Oligomers 359
16.1.4	Peptides and Peptide Mimetics 360
16.1.5	Nanoparticles: Untamed Dragons with Fire Power to Heal? 361
16.2	Summary 362
	References 363
17	Development of Therapeutic Strategies for the Transthyretin
	Amyloidoses 373
47.4	Colleen Fearns, Stephen Connelly, Evan T. Powers, and Jeffery W. Kelly
17.1	Introduction to Transthyretin Structure and Function 373
17.2	Introduction to Amyloid Diseases in General 373
17.2.1	Transthyretin Amyloid Diseases 375
17.2.2	Current Strategies to Treat Human Amyloid Diseases 377
17.3	Mechanism of Transthyretin Amyloidogenesis 378
17.3.1	Kinetic Stabilization of the Transthyretin Tetramer Ameliorates
	Amyloid Disease – Genetic Evidence 379
17.4	Kinetic Stabilization of the Transthyretin Tetramer through
	Small-Molecule Binding 381
17.4.1	Bivalent Kinetic Stabilizers 384
17.4.2	Kinetic Stabilizers Must Bind Selectively to Transthyretin 385
17.5	Assessment of Diflunisal for Treatment of Transthyretin
	Amyloidosis 385
17.6	Tafamidis, the First Approved Drug for Treatment of a Transthyretin
	Amyloidosis 385

xvı	Contents	
	17.7	Summary 387
		References 387
	18	Hormone Amyloids in Sickness and in Health 395 Carolin Seuring, Nadezhda Nespovitaya, Jonas Rutishauser, Martin Spiess, and Roland Riek
	18.1	Introduction 395
	18.2	Constitutive vs. Regulated Secretory Pathways 395
	18.3	Secretory Granules Contain Aggregated Cargo 396
	18.3.1	Secretory Protein Sorting and Granule Formation 396
	18.3.2	Triggering the Formation of Secretory Granules 398
	18.3.3	Triggering the Formation of Secretory Granules by
		Glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) 399
	18.4	Secretory Granule Aggregation by Functional Amyloid Formation 401
	18.5	Hormone Amyloids in Disease: Diabetes Insipidus 402
	18.6	Conclusions 405
		References 405
	19	Functional Amyloids in Bacteria 411 Morten S. Dueholm, Per Halkjaer Nielsen, Matthew Chapman, and Daniel Otzen
	19.1	Introduction 411
	19.2	Functional Amyloids are Common in Nature 412
	19.3	Identification and Characterization of Functional Amyloids 413
	19.4	Functional Bacterial Amyloids Play Many Roles 415
	19.4.1	Biofilm Formation and Cell Clustering 415
	19.4.2	Binding to Eukaryotic Cells 416
	19.4.3	Oligomeric Toxins 417
	19.4.4	Coating of Spores and other Cells 417
	19.5	Biogenesis and Regulation of Functional Bacterial Amyloids 418
	19.5.1	Curli 418
	19.5.2	Functional Amyloids in Pseudomonas 418
	19.5.3	Chaplins 420
	19.5.4	Hydrophobins 420
	19.6	Structural Composition of Functional Amyloids 421
	19.6.1	Curli: Five Repeating Units and Essential Gln and Asn Residues 421
	19.6.2	FapC Linkers of Variable Length: Pseudomonas 423
	19.6.3	Chaplins: GN Motif and Conserved Cys Residues 423
		- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Harpins: Small and Polar Residues 425

Summary 431

Acknowledgments 433 References 433

Assembly Properties of Functional Amyloid In Vitro 425

Diversity and Distribution of Functional Amyloid Genes 426

19.6.4

19.7

19.8

19.9

20	Structural Properties and Applications of Self-Assembling Peptides 439
	Zhongli Luo and Shuguang Zhang
20.1	Introduction to Self-Assembling Peptides 439
20.1	The Principles of Self-Assembling Peptides 439
20.2.1	Design Principle for Self-Assembling Peptides 439
20.2.1	Conformational Changes Undergone by Self-Assembling
20.2.2	Peptides 441
20.2.2.1	Effect of Temperature 441
20.2.2.2	Effect of pH 442
20.2.2.3	Effect of Amino Acid Sequence 442
20.3	Self-Assembling Peptide Nanofibers 443
20.3.1	The Nanofiber Structures of the Peptide Scaffold 443
20.3.2	The Process of Peptide Scaffold Formation 444
20.3.3	A Proposed Model for the Process of Nanofiber Formation 445
20.4	Diverse Applications of Self-Assembling Peptide Nanofibers
2011	Scaffolds 446
20.4.1	Three-Dimensional Tissue Cell Cultures 446
20.4.2	Cell and Tissue Engineering 448
20.4.3	Controlled Drug Delivery and Regenerative Medicine 450
20.4.4	Trauma Emergency 451
20.5	Summary 451
	Acknowledgments 452
	References 452
21	Harnessing the Self-Assembling Properties of Proteins in Spider Silk
	and Lung Surfactant 455
	Jan Johansson
21.1	Introduction 455
21.2	Amino Acid Sequences and Amyloid Formation 455
21.3	Spider Silk and How the Spiders Make It 458
21.4	Harnessing the Properties of Spider Silk and Its Constituent
	Proteins 461
21.5	Biosynthesis of an α -Helix from One of the Most β -Prone Sequences
	Known 462
21.6	Anti-Amyloid Properties of the BRICHOS Domain 464
21.7	Summary 465
	Acknowledgments 465
	References 466

Index 471