

Binding kinetics of a GPCR

Creoptix® WAVEsystem

Peptides binding to
membrane proteins



In this TechNote we show how the WAVE system can be used to measure the interaction of a peptide ligand agonist (NTA11) with a thermostabilized variant of the neurotensin receptor 1 (NTSR1) at highest resolution.

Summary

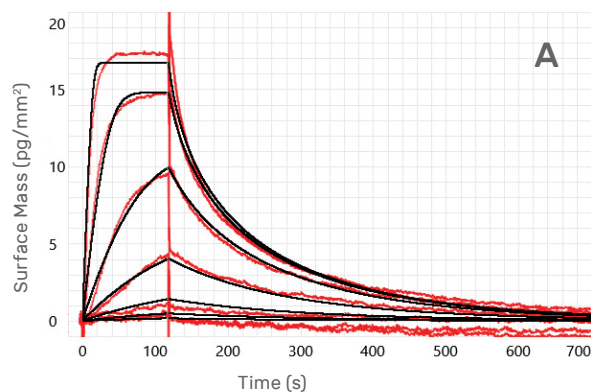
G-Protein-Coupled Receptors (GPCRs) comprise a large class of integral membrane proteins, crucial for the transduction of extracellular stimuli across the plasma membrane to elicit molecular and cellular responses. They regulate a variety of physiological processes in eukaryotes and represent the largest group of therapeutic targets, with more than 30% of available pharmaceuticals targeting GPCRs.

Membrane proteins are notoriously difficult to study due to the requirement for a membrane-mimicking environment and their instability once extracted from a cellular membrane. Here we show the capability of the WAVEsystem® to measure the interaction of a peptide ligand agonist (NTA11) with a thermo-stabilized variant of the neurotensin receptor 1 (NTSR1)¹ at highest resolution. This GPCR mediates the multiple functions of neurotensin, such as hypotension, hyperglycemia, hypothermia, antinociception, and regulation of intestinal motility and secretion².

Materials and Methods

The receptor was *in vivo* biotinylated via an avi-tag and captured on a streptavidin pre-coated sensor (WAVEchip DXH-STA). For the measured peptide agonist, a mutated and truncated form of neurotensin (Mw 725 Da), comprising residues 8-13 with a Y11A substitution was used. Dose-response curves were recorded for 7 different analyte concentrations of a 3-fold dilution series with 300 nM being the highest concentration. The flow rate was set to 30 μ L/min. The running buffer was 50 mM Tris pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, and 0.1% (w/v) of the detergent lauryl maltose-neopentyl glycol (L-MNG)³. All measurements were carried out at 25°C.

Figure 1: Sensorgrams of the interaction between a modified neurotensin peptide (MW 725 Da) as analyte and a thermostabilized neurotensin receptor (NTSR1, 70 kDa protein/detergent complex) as ligand. The data were fitted with a model for a 1:1 interaction including a term for mass-transport limitation (MTL) using the WAVEcontrol software



Results

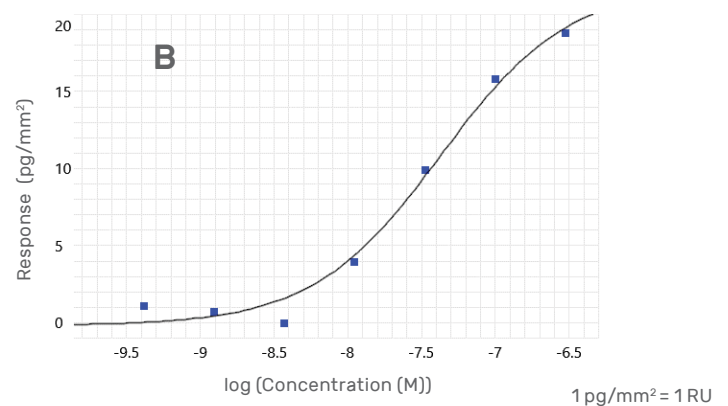
Purified and biotinylated neurotensin receptor was captured on a streptavidin pre-coated sensor (WAVEchip DXH-STA) at a density of 1350 pg/mm^2 . Dose-response curves for binding of peptide agonist were recorded (Figure 1), yielding binding data that could be well fitted with a model for a 1:1 interaction including a term for mass transport (MTL). The obtained kinetic rates and equilibrium constant are summarized in Table 1.

References

- (1) Egloff, P., Hillenbrand, M., Klenk, C., Batyuk, A., Heine, P., Balada, S., Schlinkmann, K. M., Scott, D. J., Schütz, M., and Plückerthun, A. (2014) Structure of signaling-competent neurotensin receptor 1 obtained by directed evolution in *Escherichia coli*. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A.* 111, E655–62.
- (2) Krumm, B. E., and Grisshammer, R. (2015) Peptide ligand recognition by G protein-coupled receptors. *Front. Pharmacol.*
- (3) Chae, P. S., Rasmussen, S. G. F., Rana, R. R., Gotfryd, K., Chandra, R., Goren, M. a, Kruse, A. C., Nurva, S., Loland, C. J., Pierre, Y., Drew, D., Popot, J., Picot, D., Fox, B. G., Guan, L., Gether, U., Byrne, B., Kobilka, B., and Gellman, S. H. (2010) Maltose-neopentyl glycol (MNG) amphiphiles for solubilization, stabilization and crystallization of membrane proteins. *Nat. Methods* 7, 1003–1008.

Table 1: Kinetic rates and dissociation constant for the NTA11 agonist obtained with a 1:1 interaction model including a term for mass-transport limitation (MTL)

	R_{max} (pg/mm^2)	k_{on} ($\text{M}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$)	k_{off} (s^{-1})	K_{D} (nM)
Kinetic determination	17.982	1.681×10^6	3.49×10^{-2}	20.8
Equilibrium determination	22.083	-	-	42.6



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Keeping Kinetics Real



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