Supporting Information for

Chemoenzymatic Semi-Synthesis of Phosphorylated α-Synuclein Enables Identification of a Bidirectional Effect on Fibril Formation

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General Information

Reagents for peptide synthesis, including2-(1H-benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU), N,N-Diisopropylethylamine (DIPEA), and Fluorenylmethyloxycarbonyl (Fmoc) amino acids, were purchased from EMD Millipore (Burlington, MA). Reagents for NCL, including NaNO₂, Tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine (TCEP), and mercaptophenylacetic acid (MPAA), were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO). Tyrosine starting material was purchased from Spectrum Chemical (New Brunswick, NJ) for the synthesis of propargyltyrosine. NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker DRX 500 spectrometer (Bruker; Billerica, MA). Alexa Fluor 488 (AF488) and 594 (AF594) were purchased from Thermo Fisher Scientific (Waltham, MA). E. coli BL21(DE3) cells were purchased from Stratagene (La Jolla, CA). DNA oligomers were purchased from Integrated DNA Technologies, Inc (Coralville, IA). Buffers were made with MilliQ filtered (18 M Ω) water (Millipore; Billerica, MA). Preparation of the pTXB1- α S-intein-H₆ plasmid containing α S with a C-terminal fusion to the *Mycobacterium xenopi* GyrA intein and C-terminal His₆ tag was described previously.¹ This plasmid was used as a starting point for the preparation of αS fragment-intein constructs. Matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization (MALDI) mass spectra were collected with a Bruker Ultraflex III MALDI-TOF/TOF mass spectrometer (Billerica, MA). UV/vis absorbance spectra were obtained with a Hewlett-Packard 8452A diode array spectrophotometer (currently Agilent Technologies). Gel images were obtained with a Typhoon FLA 7000 (GE Lifesciences; Princeton, NJ). Congo Red absorbance spectra were collected on a Tecan M1000 plate reader (Mannedorf, Switzerland). Peptides and protein fragments were purified on a Varian preparative HPLC equipped with fraction collector and diode array detector (Agilent Technologies; Santa Clara, CA). Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) images were collected on a FEI Tecnai 12 electron microscope (Hillsboro, OR).

Production of recombinant aS constructs

A plasmid containing an aS construct fused to a polyhistidine-tagged GyrA intein from Mycobacterium xenopi (Mxe) was transformed into BL21 DE3 competent cells by heat shocking at 42 °C.² Cells were grown on Ampicillin (Amp) plates, and single colonies were picked to inoculate primary cultures in LB media supplemented with 1µg/mL Amp. Secondary cultures were incubated at 37 °C in a shaker at 250 rpm until optical density (OD) reached ~0.6. Expression of the gene of interest was induced with isopropyl β -D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG). Cells were then grown in the shaker-incubator at 18 °C overnight. After centrifugation (5000 rpm, 20 min, 4 °C), cell pellets were re-suspended in buffer (20 mM Tris, 5 mM ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA), 1 Roche protease inhibitor tablet) and sonicated in a cup in an ice bath (5 min, 1 s ON, 1 s OFF). The resulting lysate was centrifuged (14,000 rpm, 25 min, 4 °C), and supernatant containing the protein of interest (POI) was purified over a Ni-NTA affinity column. For C-terminal carboxylate constructs, intein cleavage was carried out by incubation with 200 mM β-mercaptoethanol (βME) on a rotisserie over night at room temperature. For C-terminal thioester constructs, excess imidazole was removed by dialysis before transthioesterification with 200 mM sodium 2-mercaptoethanesulfonate (MESNa) was carried out overnight at 4 °C on a stir plate. Cleaved POI was dialyzed into 20 mM Tris, pH 8 buffer before purification over a second Ni-NTA column to remove the free intein from the sample. Fulllength α S and C-terminal fragment constructs were purified by fast-protein liquid chromatography (FPLC) using a Hi-Trap Q 5 mL column prior to labeling with fluorophore. Labeling with Alexa Fluor 488 (AF488) maleimide was done by incubation of the POI with tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine (TCEP) followed by addition of 2 equiv of fluorophore dissolved in DMSO. The reaction tube was wrapped in aluminum foil and incubated at 37 °C for 1-3 h. Completion of labeling was verified by matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization mass spectrometry (MALDI-MS). Labeled proteins were purified by reverse-phase high-performance liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC) using a C4 column.

Unnatural amino acid incorporation via amber codon suppression was used to produce doublelabeled full-length α S and C-terminal fragments bearing Alexa Fluor 594 (AF594). Plasmid containing the desired α S construct was transformed into *E. coli* pDULE-pXF cells with pretransformed plasmids encoding propargyl-tyrosine (Ppy or π) synthetase and tRNA.¹ Expression was carried out as above, except cells were grown in M9 minimal media, and π (220 mg/L) was added to the culture at OD ~0.8 with a 10-min incubation prior to inducing expression with IPTG. For fulllength constructs bearing two fluorophores, purified protein was first labeled with AF488-maleimide as described above. Upon completion of the first labeling, product was dialyzed into 20 mM Tris pH 8 and labeled with AF594-azide via copper-catalyzed azide-alkyne cyclization. Catalytic mixture consisting of 2 equiv CuSO₄, 10 equiv THPTA, and 20 equiv sodium ascorbate was let sit for 10 min and added to the protein along with 2 equiv fluorophore. Labeled proteins were purified by HPLC over a C4 preparatory column.

Deletion PCR was performed on plasmids containing full-length α S to generate protein fragments used for NCL. Protein fragment constructs were expressed and purified following the same procedures used for full-length protein. For N-terminal protein fragments, expression in *E coli* results in its production with the initiator methionine, which is cleaved *in vivo* by endogenous methionine amino peptidase.³ The exposed N-terminal cysteine reacts with endogenous aldehydes to form thiazolidine adducts (Thz).⁴ Therefore, de-protection of the thiazolidine⁵ was carried out by reacting it with 100 mM methoxyamine at pH 4 to regenerate the N-terminal cysteine for later use in ligation.



Primer sequences:

αS_{1-36}	Forward	5'-TGCATCACGGGAGATGCA-3'
	Reverse	5'-ACCCTCTTTTGTCTTTCCTGC-3'
αS_{1-55}	Forward	5'-TGCATCACGGGAGATGCA-3'
	Reverse	5'-CACTGTTGCCACACCATG-3'
αS_{56-140}	Forward	5'-TGTGAGAAGACCAAAGAGC-3'
	Reverse	5'-CATATGTATATCTCCTTCTTAAAGTTAAAC-3'
αS-E ₃₉	Forward	5'-GGAAAGACAAAAGAGGGTGTTCTCGAAGTAGGCTCC-3'
	Reverse	5'-GGAGCCTACTTCGAGAACACCCTCTTTTGTCTTTCC-3'

Solid phase peptide synthesis (SPPS) of peptides

Peptides needed for the semi-synthesis of α S-pY₃₉ were made via solid phase peptide synthesis (SPPS) on 2-chloro-trityl resin following standard procedures.⁶ The resin was derivatized by coupling Fmoc-hydrazine, and extra sites were capped with methanol. For amino acid coupling, 5 equiv Fmoc-protected amino acid were activated with 10 equiv DIPEA and added along with 5 equiv HBTU to the deprotected peptidyl resin with stirring for 30 min. Washes with DMF and DCM were performed between each coupling. Fmoc deprotection was done by stirring for 20 min with 20% (v/v) piperidine in DMF. Peptide cleavage from the resin was performed by adding 20 µL of cleavage cocktail (95% TFA, 2.5% TIPS, 2.5% H2O) per mg of resin and agitating for 1.5 h at room temperature. The peptidyl hydrazides α S₃₀₋₅₅-C₃₀pY₃₉-NHNH₂ and α S₃₇₋₅₅-V*₃₇pY₃₉-NHNH₂ were synthesized using phosphotyrosine (Fmoc-Tyr(PO(OBzl)OH)-OH) at position 39.

To label α S₁₋₂₉-C₉, the lyophilized peptide was re-dissolved in 20 mM Tris pH 8 and reacted with 2 equiv AF488-maleimide at 37 °C for 1-4 h until product formation was observed by MALDI-MS. All peptides were purified by RP-HPLC using a C18 preparatory column.

c-Abl kinase expression and purification

The plasmids ABL1 HUMAN D0 and YopH were gifts from John Chodera, Nicholas Levinson, and Markus Seeliger (Addgene plasmid #79727; http://n2t.net/addgene:79727; RRID: Addgene 79727). (Addgene plasmid #79749; http://n2t.net/addgene:79749; **RRID**: Addgene 79749).⁷ c-Abl and YopH were co-transformed into BL21 cells and grown on plates overnight. Cultures were grown to OD₆₀₀ of 0.6, and expression was induced with 0.25 mM IPTG. The induced culture was grown with shaking at 16 °C overnight. Cells were resuspended in 40 mM Tris, pH 8.3 buffer with 1 protease inhibitor tablet and 5% glycerol. Buffers for the Ni-NTA column were also supplemented with 5% glycerol. TEV protease was added to eluate from Ni-NTA purification, and the sample was dialyzed into 20 mM Tris pH 8.0 at 4 °C overnight. The c-Abl was purified by FPLC over a HiTrap Q column using buffers containing 1 mM dithiothreitol (DTT) and 5% glycerol, followed by size exclusion chromatography over a Superdex 75 column. Pooled pure fractions of c-Abl were aliquotted and stored at -80°C in buffer consisting of 20 mM Tris pH 8.0, 100 mM NaCl, 1 mM DTT, 5% glycerol.

In vitro phosphorylation of full-length αS and αS fragments

WT α S, or α S₁₋₅₅, or α S₁₋₅₅-C₉⁴⁸⁸ fragment was dissolved in buffer (50 mM Tris, 150 mM NaCl, pH 7.4) to a final concentration of ~70 μ M. To the sample was added up to 0.1 equiv c-Abl enzyme, Mg-ATP to a final concentration of 2 mM, and MgCl₂ to a final concentration of 5 mM. The reaction was incubated in a 30 °C water bath for several h. The reaction was monitored by MALDI-MS and supplemented with additional Mg-ATP and MgCl₂ as necessary. Phosphorylated α S₁₋₅₅ or α S₁₋₅₅-C₉⁴⁸⁸ fragment was purified by RP-HPLC over a C18 column.

Native chemical ligation (NCL)

Peptide-acyl-hydrazide was dissolved in low pH NCL buffer (6 M GdnHCl, 200 mM Na₂PO₄, pH 3) for a final concentration of 2 mM and chilled to -15°C in an ice-salt bath. Hydrazide to azide conversion⁸ was achieved by adding 10 equiv NaNO₂ and agitating by magnetic stirring for 15 min at -15°C. The partner peptide, pre-dissolved in NCL buffer pH 7.0 along with 40 equiv MPAA, was added to the reaction. The mixture was warmed to room temperature, and the pH was adjusted to 7.0. Reaction was incubated at 37 °C with agitation and supplemented with TCEP as necessary. Product formation was monitored by MALDI-MS.

For ligation of expressed N-terminal protein fragment, α S fragment-MxeHis₆ was purified by Ni-NTA, and intein was cleaved with 200 mM MESNa to generate a thioester.⁹ The protein fragment-thioester was purified by RP-HPLC over a C18 column and lyophilized. To carry out ligation, the partner protein fragment containing a ligation handle was re-dissolved in NCL buffer (6 M GdnHCl, 200 mM Na₂PO₄, 30 mM TCEP, 50 mM MPAA, pH 7.0). The protein fragment-thioester was added, and reaction was incubated at 37 °C with agitation at 250 rpm for several hours to overnight. Reaction was monitored by MALDI-MS, and the product was reduced with 300 mM TCEP and purified by RP-HPLC. To convert cysteines and penicillamines used in ligation to the respective native alanines and valines, the protein was incubated with 50 mM radical initiator VA-044 and 10% (v/v) *t*-BuSH in an argon-purged tube at 37 °C overnight. The full-length α S products were then purified by RP-HPLC.

Protein aggregation kinetics and percentage incorporation into fibrils

Protein samples (100 μ M total concentration in monomer units) in buffer (20 mM Tris, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.5) were prepared in triplicate in Eppendorf tubes. Samples were shaken in an Ika MS3 orbital shaker set to 1300 rpm at 37 °C. At each time point, a 10 μ L aliquot from each sample was added to 140 μ L of Congo Red solution (20 μ M in 20 mM Tris, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.5) in a clean Eppendorf tube and incubated for 10-15 min. Samples were transferred to 96-well clear bottom CoStar plates. Absorbance was measured on a Tecan M1000 using 230-700 nm range, 1 nm step size, 25 flashes/read. The extent of aggregation was determined based on the ratio of Congo Red absorbance at 540 nm/480 nm. After the final time point, samples were spun down at maximum speed on a tabletop centrifuge for 90 min. The supernatant was removed, and pellet was resuspended in the original volume of buffer. Samples were supplemented with SDS to 25 mM final concentration, boiled for 20 min, and chilled on ice. Monomeric samples for calibration were prepared by 2-fold serial dilutions in water. All samples were analyzed by SDS-PAGE (18% acrylamide, 150 V, 1.5 h). Gels were stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue dye. Quantification of the intensity of bands was done using the ImageJ software.

Single molecule Förster resonance energy transfer (smFRET)

All smFRET measurements were made on a MicroTime 200 inverse time- resolved confocal microscope (PicoQuant, Berlin, Germany). Eight-chambered Nunc coverslips (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA) were plasma cleaned and coated with poly(ethylene glycol) poly(L-lysine) overnight. For each smFRET measurement, buffer (20 mM Tris, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.4) was added to a chamber, followed by 30 pM α S labeled with AF488 and AF594. Samples were mixed by pipetting and incubated for 5 min before measurement. 485 nm and 560 nm lasers pulsed at 40 MHz were adjusted to 30 μ W before entering the microscope. Fluorescence was collected through the objective and passed through a 100 μ m pinhole. Excitation and emission were discriminated by passing the photons through a HQ585LP dichroic in combination with ET525/50M and HQ600LP filters. Signal was detected by photodiodes. Photon traces were collected in 1-ms time bins for an hour. A threshold of 30 counts/ms total in the donor and acceptor channels was used to discriminate events from noise. For each event, the energy transfer efficiency between donor and acceptor fluorophore (ET_{eff}) was calculated in the SymPhoTime 64 software using the following equation:

$$ET_{eff} = \frac{I_a - \beta I_d}{(I_a - \beta I_d) + \gamma (I_d + \beta I_d)}$$

where I_a and I_b are respectively the intensity of fluorescence detected in the acceptor and donor channels. β is the leakage of the fluorescence from the donor fluorophore into the acceptor channel, measured before each set of experiments. γ is the differences in detection efficiency and quantum yield between acceptor and donor fluorophores and is measured every few months. The resulting histograms were fit using Origin (OriginLab Corp, Northampton, MA) to Gaussian distributions:

$$y = \frac{A}{w\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}}}e^{-2\left(\left(\frac{(x-x_c)}{w}\right)^2\right)}$$

where w is the width, A is the area, and x_c is the center of the distribution.

Transmission electron microscopy (TEM)

TEM was carried out on an FEI Tecnai T12 instrument with an accelerating voltage of 120 kV. Fibril samples obtained from aggregation and centrifugation and stored at -80 °C as dry pellets were resuspended in 20 mM Tris, 100 mM NaCl pH 7.5. A 3 μ L drop of sample was deposited on glow discharged carbon Formvar coated 300-mesh Cu grids and allowed to rest for 1 minute at room temperature. 3 μ L of stain (2% w/v ammonium molybdate, pH 7.8 in water) was then applied to the grid. The liquid was wicked off with grid paper, and another 3 μ L of stain was applied and wicked off. Images were collected at magnifications ranging from 6500 x to 42000 x.



Figure S1. Synthetic peptide α S₁₋₂₉-C⁴⁸⁸9 with C-terminal hydrazide (A) MALDI-MS (B) HPLC



Figure S2. Synthetic peptide αS_{30-55} -C₃₀pY₃₉ with C-terminal hydrazide (A) MALDI-MS (B) HPLC



Figure S3. Synthetic peptide $\alpha S_{37-55}\text{--}V^*{}_{37}pY_{39}$ with C-terminal hydrazide (A) MALDI-MS (B) HPLC



Figure S4. Native chemical ligation of αS₁₋₂₉-C⁴⁸⁸9 and αS₃₀₋₅₅-C₃₀pY₃₉ (A) MALDI-MS (B) HPLC



Figure S5. Recombinant α S₅₆₋₁₄₀-C₅₆ (A) MALDI-MS (B) 15% polyacrylamide SDS-PAGE gel (Coomassie stain)



Figure S6. Recombinant α S₁₋₃₆-C₉ and AF488 labeling (A) MALDI-MS (B) 15% polyacrylamide SDS-PAGE gel (Coomassie stain)



Figure S7. Native chemical ligation of $\alpha S_{1\text{-}36}\text{-}C^{488}{}_9$ and $\alpha S_{37\text{-}55}\text{-}V^*{}_{37}pY_{39}$ (A) MALDI-MS (B) HPLC



Figure S8. Recombinant α S₁₋₅₅ (A) MALDI-MS (B) 15% polyacrylamide SDS-PAGE gel (Silver stain)



Figure S9. Recombinant @S1-55-C9 and AF488 labeling MALDI-MS



Figure S10. In vitro phosphorylation of αS₁₋₅₅ by cAbl kinase (A) MALDI-MS (B) HPLC



Figure S11. In vitro phosphorylation of αS₁₋₅₅-C⁴⁸⁸9 by cAbl kinase (A) MALDI-MS (B) HPLC



Figure S12. Recombinant α S₅₆₋₁₄₀-C₅₆ π ₇₂ and AF594 labeling (A) MALDI-MS (B) 15% polyacrylamide SDS-PAGE gel (Coomassie stain)



Figure S13. Recombinant α S₅₆₋₁₄₀-C₅₆ π ₉₄ and AF594 labeling (A) MALDI-MS (B) 15% polyacrylamide SDS-PAGE gel (Coomassie stain) and cy5 fluorescence filters



Figure S14. Recombinant α S₅₆₋₁₄₀-C₅₆ π ₁₃₆ and AF594 labeling (A) MALDI-MS (B) 15% polyacrylamide SDS-PAGE gel (Coomassie stain) and cy5 fluorescence filters



Figure S15. Native chemical ligation of α S₁₋₅₅-pY₃₉ and α S₅₆₋₁₄₀-C₅₆ (A) MALDI-MS of ligation product (MPAA adduct) and desulfurized product. (B) HPLC



Figure S16. Native chemical ligation of αS_{1-55} -C9⁴⁸⁸pY₃₉ and αS_{56-140} -C₅₆ (A) MALDI-MS of ligation product (MPAA adduct) and desulfurized product. (B) HPLC



Figure S17. Native chemical ligation of αS_{1-55} - C_9^{488} pY₃₉ and αS_{56-140} - $C_{56}\pi^{594}$ ₇₂ (A) MALDI-MS (B) HPLC



Figure S18. Native chemical ligation of αS_{1-55} - C_9^{488} pY₃₉ and αS_{56-140} - $C_{56}\pi^{594}$ ₉₄ (A) MALDI-MS (B) HPLC



Figure S19. Native chemical ligation of $\alpha S_{1-55}-C_9^{488}pY_{39}$ and $\alpha S_{56-140}-C_{56}\pi^{594}_{136}$ (A) MALDI-MS (B) HPLC



Figure S20. Recombinant α S-C9⁴⁸⁸ π^{594} 72 (A) MALDI-MS (B) 15% polyacrylamide SDS-PAGE gel (Coomassie stain) and FITC and cy5 fluorescence filters



Figure S21. Recombinant α S-C⁴⁸⁸9 π^{594} 94 (A) MALDI-MS (B) 15% polyacrylamide SDS-PAGE gel (Coomassie stain) and FITC and cy5 fluorescence filters



Figure S22. Recombinant α S-C⁴⁸⁸9 π^{594}_{136} (A) MALDI-MS (B) 15% polyacrylamide SDS-PAGE gel (Coomassie stain) and FITC and cy5 fluorescence filters



Figure S23. Recombinant cAbl kinase (A) MALDI-MS **(B)** 15% polyacrylamide SDS-PAGE gel (Coomassie stain) **(C)** FPLC, HiTrap Q 5 mL **(D)** Size exclusion chromatography, Superdex 75



Figure S24. Aggregation kinetics by Congo Red. Aggregation kinetics of (A) α S-pY₃₉ and (B) α S phosphorylation mimic E₃₉ at various percentages of monomeric starting material.





Figure S25. Fibril incorporation assay by SDS-PAGE (A) Percentage incorporation assay for α S-pY₃₉ and (B) α S phosphorylation mimic Y39E (E₃₉). Standards: 100 μ M, 50 μ M, 25 μ M, and 12.5 μ M wild type α S monomer.



Figure S26. smFRET histograms comparing α S WT and pY₃₉ conformation in solution. (A) α S-C⁴⁸⁸₉ π^{594}_{72} control (B) α S-C⁴⁸⁸₉ pY₃₉ π^{594}_{72} (C) α S-C⁴⁸⁸₉ π^{594}_{136} control (D) α S-C⁴⁸⁸₉ pY₃₉ π^{594}_{136} . All data were fit to Gaussian distributions.

	ET _{eff} center			Mean ET _{eff} center
α S-C ⁴⁸⁸ 9 π ⁵⁹⁴ 72	0.53839	0.54107	0.53548	0.53831
$\alpha S-C^{488}$ 9 pY 39 π^{594} 72	0.61061	0.60744	0.60289	0.60698
α S-C ⁴⁸⁸ 9 π ⁵⁹⁴ 136	0.26932	0.30078	0.28484	0.28498
α S-C ⁴⁸⁸ 9 pY ₃₉ π ⁵⁹⁴ 136	0.23354	0.23976	0.23914	0.23748
	width			
		width		Mean width
α S-C ⁴⁸⁸ 9 π ⁵⁹⁴ 72	0.22039	width 0.22307	0.23131	Mean width 0.22492
$\frac{\alpha S - C^{488}{}_{9} \pi^{594}{}_{72}}{\alpha S - C^{488}{}_{9} p Y_{39} \pi^{594}{}_{72}}$	0.22039 0.33848	width 0.22307 0.33597	0.23131 0.35806	Mean width 0.22492 0.34417
$\frac{\alpha S - C^{488} {}_{9} \pi^{594} {}_{72}}{\alpha S - C^{488} {}_{9} p Y_{39} \pi^{594} {}_{72}}{\alpha S - C^{488} {}_{9} \pi^{594} {}_{136}}$	0.22039 0.33848 0.24760	width 0.22307 0.33597 0.23940	0.23131 0.35806 0.27646	Mean width 0.22492 0.34417 0.25449

Table S1. smFRET data



Figure S27. Potential interactions of pY₃₉ in fibrils. Cryo-EM structures (PDB ID: 6A6B and 6RTB) and solid state NMR structure (PDB ID: 2NOA) showing Y₃₉ viewed down fibril axis or side-on (insets).¹⁰⁻¹²



Figure S28. Transmission Electron Microscopy images of pY39 fibrils. TEM images of fibrils formed from 100% WT in comparison with those comprised of 25% pY₃₉. Scale bars indicate 200 nm.



Figure S29. Multiple phosphorylation of α S full-length by c-Abl. MALDI-MS of WT α S full-length after 2 h *in vitro* reaction with c-Abl enzyme. Appearance of doubly phosphorylated species is observed prior to completion of single phosphorylation.

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