Joint Analytical & ChemBio Seminar by Prof. Matt Bush University of Washington

Hosted by Profs. Lingjun Li & Ying Ge



"Native Ion Mobility Mass Spectrometry: New Insights from Ion Mobility, Unfolding and Folding of Protein Ions in the Gas Phase"

Native-like ions are generated using electrospray ionization of proteins, nucleic acids, lipids, and other biological molecules in aqueous solutions. These gasphase ions can retain noncovalent interactions that were present in the original solution, and as a consequence, native ion mobility mass spectrometry (IM-MS) is now used to answer many questions in structural biology and biophysics that have eluded condensed-phased strategies. However, concerns about the fidelity of structures in solution and structures in the gas phase continue to inhibit the broader adoption of IM-MS technologies and reduce the confidence in structural models that are based on IM-MS measurements. Therefore, an accurate understanding of this fidelity is critical to advancing this field. I will report recent experiments in my lab that made use of ion mobility, ion chemistry, energy-dependent activation, and time-dependent kinetics in order to probe the structures and structural evolution of protein ions in the gas phase. I will then discuss the implications of these results to the interpretation of native IM-MS data and the resulting structural models.