

ESRF	Experiment title: Structure and supramolecular organization of a new class of self-assembled polar headgroup substitued liposome DNA complexes for gene transfer	Experiment number: SC-2772
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Report:

The experimental results have been published in the paper

M. Pisani, V. Fino, P. Bruni, and O. Francescangeli

"An X-ray diffraction study of complexes of DNA and lactosyl-functionalised liposomes induced by bivalent metal cations: coexistence of different symmetries", *Liq. Cryst.*, 40:2, 137-148 (**2013**).

whose abstract is reported below

By using synchrotron X-ray diffraction we studied the structure and phase behaviour of complexes of DNA with the anionic 1,2-dioleoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphoethanolamine-N-lactosyl (L-PE), mixed with zwitterionic lipids 1,2-dioleoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine (DOPC) or 1,2-dioleoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphoethanolamine (DOPE), in aqueous solutions of Mn^{2+} and Ca^{2+} . Aqueous dispersions of simple L-PE/DOPC and L-PE/DOPE in the presence and absence of metal cations were also studied. All the systems complexed in a self-assembled manner, the DNA condensation being promoted by the metal cations... These complexes are organized in a variety of structures showing a number of symmetries,

sometimes coexisting, for example condensed multilamellar, L_{α}^{c} , inverted hexagonal, H_{II}^{c} , and cubic, Pn3m. Phase distribution depends on the molar ratios between L-PE and DOPC or DOPE, respectively.