

**Signed statement from the applicant to the effect that the research work under reference has not been given any award in the past. The applicant should also indicate the extent of the contribution of others associated with the research and he/she should clearly identify his/her achievements (not to exceed 500 words)**

The research work on liquid-liquid phase separation of  $\alpha$ -Synuclein ( $\alpha$ -Syn) has not been given any award in the past. Our work on this area of research has resulted in two publications in top-notch peer-reviewed journals. We recently demonstrated that  $\alpha$ -Syn undergoes liquid-liquid phase separation (LLPS) (similar to oil droplet in water) in the cytoplasmic crowded milieu (*Ray et al Nature chemistry, 2020*). The high local concentration triggers liquid-to-solid transition in which amyloid-like fibrils emerge from the solid droplet. Additionally, we demonstrated that the different environmental conditions like disease associated familial mutations, post translational modifications, acidic pH (lysosomal pH) can aggravate LLPS of  $\alpha$ -Syn and subsequent liquid-to-solid transition (*Sawner et al. Biochemistry, 2021*).

1. Ray, S., Singh, N., Kumar, R., Patel, K., Pandey, S., Datta, D, Mahato, J., Panigrahi R., Navalkar, A., Mehra, S., Gadhe, L., Chatterjee, D., Sawner AS., Maiti, S., Bhatia, S., Gerez, J., Chowdhury, A., Kumar, A., Padinhateeri, R., Riek, R., Krishnamoorthy, G and **Maji, S. K** (2020)  $\alpha$ -Synuclein aggregation nucleates through liquid-liquid phase separation, *Nature Chemistry*, 12, 705–716

**Contribution:** Prof. Maji conceived the idea. The study was designed, directed and coordinated by Prof. Maji as Principal Investigator. He provided the infrastructure and funding for conducting all the experiments. He provided conceptual and technical guidance throughout the project. Most of the experiments (~90 %) were performed in Prof. Maji's lab.

NMR study was done in Prof. Ashutosh Kumar's lab and single droplet imaging and spectroscopy was done in Prof. Arindam Chowdhury's lab (IIT Bombay).

Time resolved fluorescence studies were done in consultation with Prof. G. Krishnamoorthy and Prof. Ranjith Padinhateeri provided helped in analysing data (IIT Bombay).

Prof. Roland Riek provided C4- $\alpha$ -Syn cell line (ETH Zurich).

2. Sawner, AS., Ray, S., Yadav, P., Mukherjee, S., Panigrahi, R., Poudyal, M., Patel, K., Ghosh, D., Kummerant, E., Kumar, A., Riek, R. and **Maji, S. K** (2021) Modulating  $\alpha$ -Synuclein Liquid-Liquid Phase Separation. *Biochemistry*, 60(48):3676–96.

**Contributions:** Prof. Maji conceived the idea. The study was designed, directed and coordinated by Prof. Maji as Principal Investigator. He provided the infrastructure and funding for conducting all the experiments. He provided conceptual and technical guidance throughout the project.

The NMR study was performed in Prof. Ashutosh Kumar's lab (IIT Bombay). Prof. Roland Riek provided expertise in explaining NMR observations (ETH Zurich).

Prof. Maji and team analysed the data, interpreted the results and contributed in drafting the manuscript and critical revision.

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