

Letter to the Editor

NMR assignment of the outer membrane lipoprotein (OmlA) from *Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv *citri*

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An outer membrane lipoprotein (OmlA) belonging to the small membrane protein A (SmpA) family was identified in *Xanthomonas citri* (Da Silva et al., 2002). Although many functions have been assigned to bacterial lipoproteins, the role of OmlA/SmpA remains unknown. To gain insights into OmlA function, we have been prompted to determine its 3D solution structure by NMR using a recombinant ^{15}N and ^{13}C double-labelled protein. All ^1H , ^{15}N and ^{13}C backbone resonances have been completely assigned. Side-chain assignments are almost complete, with the exception of Pro11, Lys32 and Lys70, and the aromatic rings of Phe72, Phe89 and Phe101. Chemical shift index analysis indicates that the protein has α -helical and β -sheet elements with an unfolded C-terminus. Besides helping to understand the function of this family of membrane proteins, the 3D structure of *X. citri* OmlA may eventually unveil a new protein fold. Resonance assignments have been deposited in the BioMagResBank under the accession number 6797.

References: Da Silva et al. (2002). *Nature*, **417**, 459–463

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