

## Supporting Information

### Investigation of the structural preference and flexibility of the loop residues in amyloid fibrils of the HET-s prion

Jozica Dolenc<sup>§</sup>, Beat H. Meier, Victor H. Rusu, Wilfred F. van Gunsteren\*

Laboratory of Physical Chemistry, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, ETH, Zurich,  
Switzerland

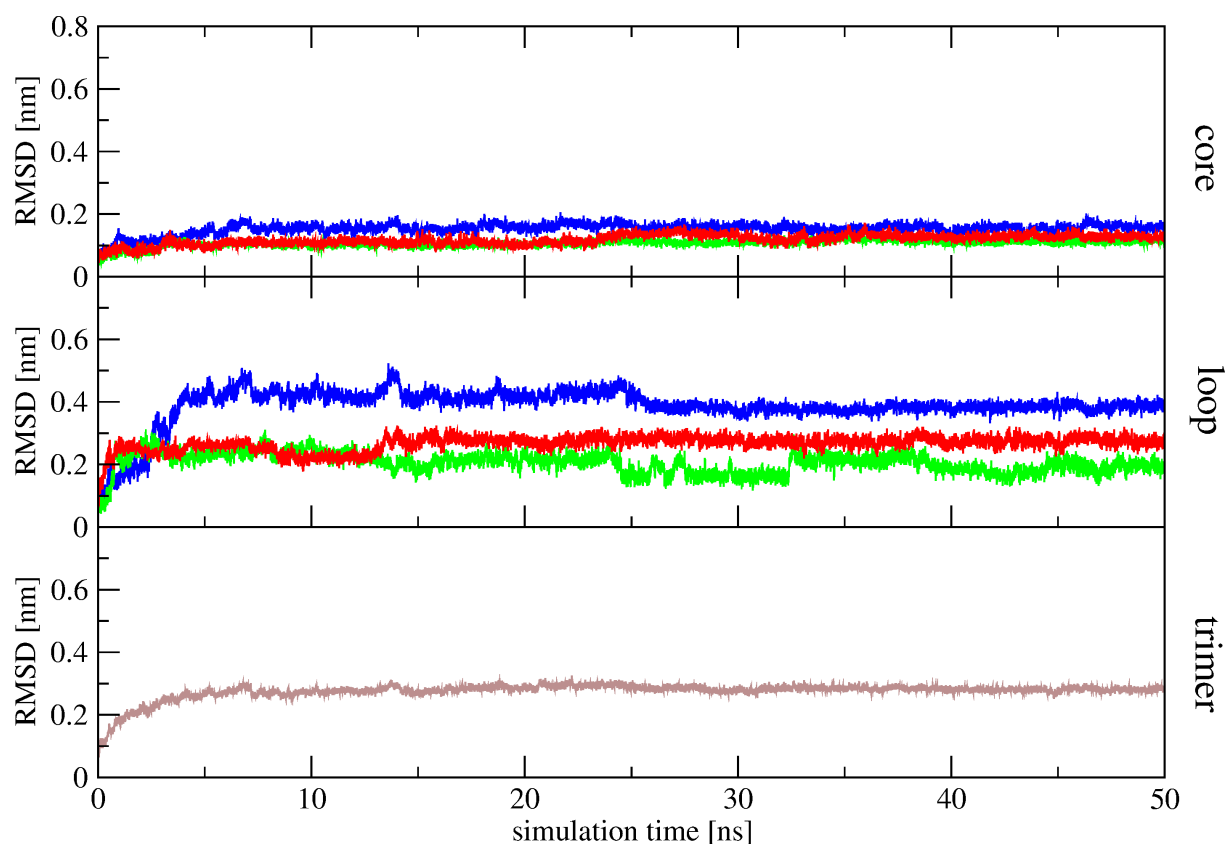
Corresponding author:

Wilfred F. van Gunsteren  
Laboratory of Physical Chemistry  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, ETH  
Vladimir-Prelog-Weg 2  
8093 Zurich, Switzerland

wfvgn@igc.phys.chem.ethz.ch

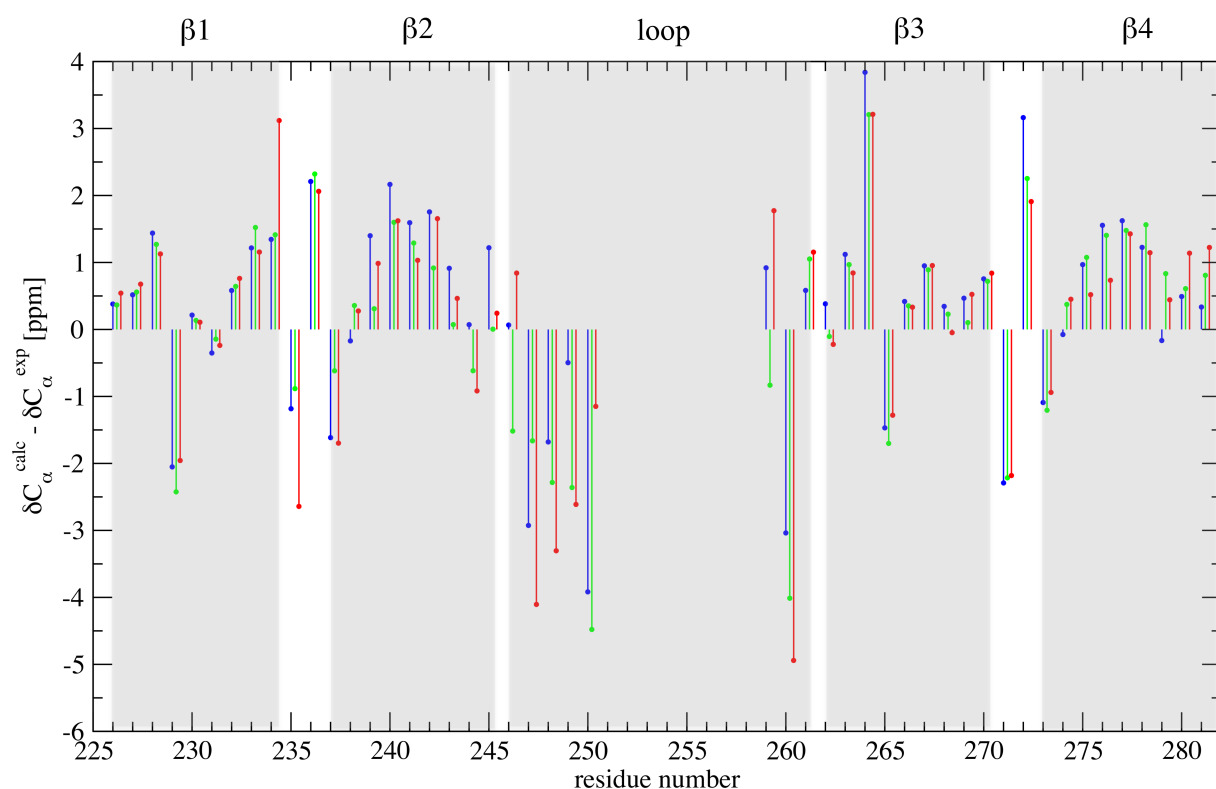
<sup>§</sup> Current address: Chemistry | Biology | Pharmacy Information Center, ETH Zurich,  
Zurich CH-8093, Switzerland

**Figure S1**



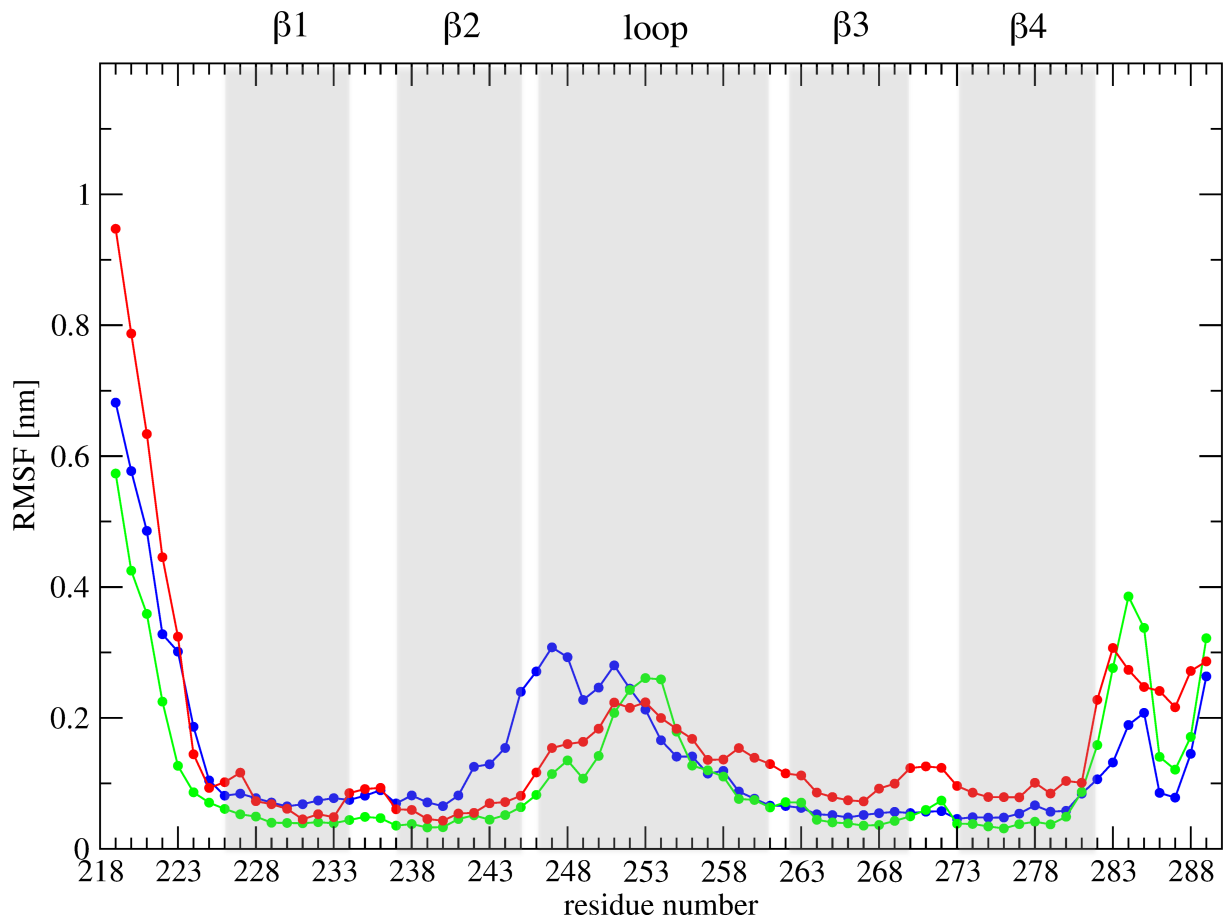
Time series of atom-positional root-mean-square deviations (RMSD) of the  $C\alpha$  atoms of the HET-s backbone from the energy-minimized HET-s trimer starting conformation for the HET-s core, its loops, the trimer and for the “free loop” in water. The structures were taken at regular intervals of 1 ps from the MD trajectories generated at 298 K. Blue line corresponds to the bottom molecule 1, green to the middle molecule 2, red to the top molecule 3, brown to the trimer, and black line to the MD simulations of the “free loop” in water.

**Figure S2**



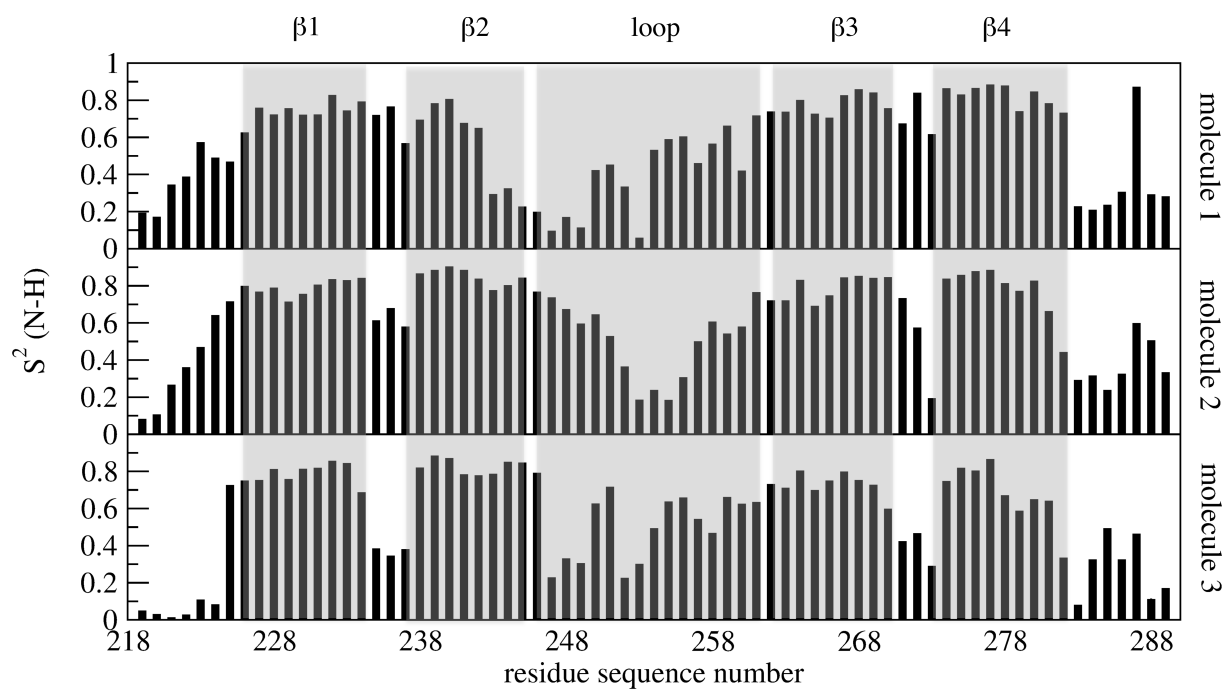
Difference between the predicted and experimental  $C\alpha$  chemical shifts for the core (226-245, 262-281) and the loop (246-261) residues of the bottom molecule 1 (blue), middle molecule 2 (green) and the top molecule 3 (red) of the HET-s trimer at 298 K.  $\beta$ -strands and the loop between  $\beta 2$  and  $\beta 3$  are shaded in gray. Experimental values for the loop are only available for the residues 246-250 and 259-261. The values of the calculated and experimental  $C\alpha$  chemical shifts are reported in Table S2 of the Supporting Information.

**Figure S3**



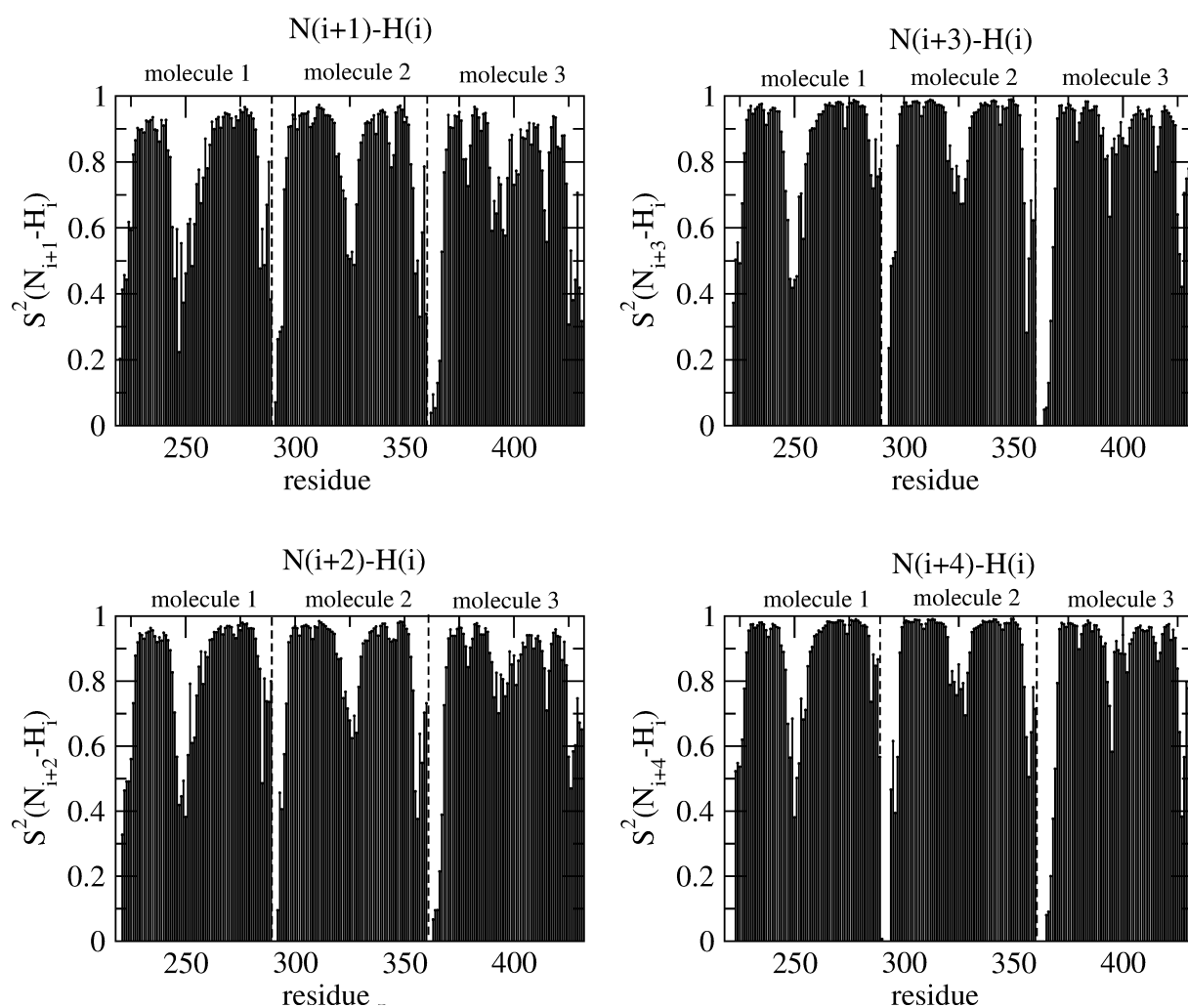
Atom-positional root-mean-square fluctuations (RMSF) of the C $\alpha$  atoms for the bottom molecule 1 (blue), middle molecule 2 (green) and top molecule 3 (red) of the HET-s trimer as derived from the MD simulations of HET-s trimer at 298 K.  $\beta$ -strands and the loop between  $\beta 2$  and  $\beta 3$  are shaded in gray.

**Figure S4**



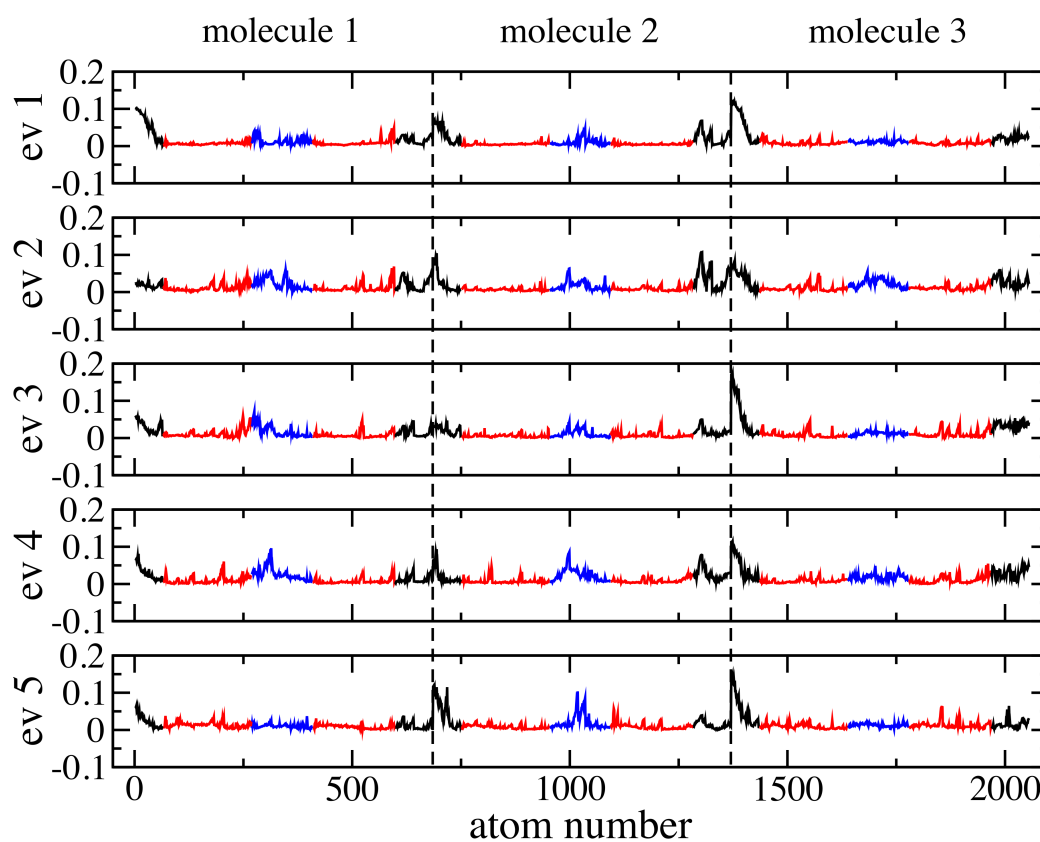
Backbone N-H order parameters for the bottom molecule 1, middle molecule 2 and top molecule 3 of the HET-s trimer calculated from the MD simulations at 298 K.  $\beta$  strands and the loop between them are shaded in gray.  $\beta$ -strands and the loop between  $\beta 2$  and  $\beta 3$  are shaded in gray.

**Figure S5**



Backbone  $N_{i+n}-H_i$  ( $n = 1,2,3,4$ ) order parameters for the bottom molecule 1, middle molecule 2 and the top molecule 3 of the HET-s trimer determined from the simulations of the HET-s trimer at 298 K.

**Figure S6**



Atomic contributions to the first five eigenvectors from the terminal (black), core (red) and loop (blue) atoms of HET-s trimer at 298 K. Atom numbers 1-65 correspond to the terminal residues 218-224, atom numbers 66-268 to the core residues 225-244, atom numbers 269-408 to the loop residues 245-260, atom numbers 409-598 to the core residues 261-280, and atom numbers 599-685 to the terminal residues 281-288.

**Table S1**

Percentages of hydrogen bonds in the loops of molecule 1, 2 and 3 of the HET-s trimer at 298 K. Only hydrogen bonds with populations greater than 5% are shown.

| Hydrogen Bond              | Loop 1 | Loop 2 | Loop 3 |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 248ALA:NH – 246THR:O       |        |        | 5.2    |
| 249ALA:NH – 246THR:OG1     | 11.9   | 15.9   |        |
| 249ALA:NH – 246THR:O       | 10.2   | 62.4   |        |
| 249ALA:NH – 252GLY:O       |        |        | 9.7    |
| 250LEU:NH – 246THR:O       | 25.9   |        |        |
| 250LEU:NH – 247ALA:O       | 14.6   |        |        |
| 250LEU:NH – 248ALA:O       | 9.1    |        |        |
| 252GLY:NH – 249ALA:O       |        |        | 10.1   |
| 252GLY:NH – 250LEU:O       | 23.7   |        |        |
| 252GLY:NH – 251HIS:O       | 6.6    |        |        |
| 253ILE:NH – 252GLY:O       |        |        | 21.7   |
| 255ARG:NH – 253GLY:O       | 18.0   |        |        |
| 257SER:NH – 251HIS:NE2     |        | 13.5   |        |
| 257SER:OGHG – 251HIS:NE2   |        | 27.3   |        |
| 257SER:NH – 255ARG:O       |        | 6.2    |        |
| 257SER:OGHG – 256ILE:O     | 9.2    |        |        |
| 258ASP:NH – 258ASP:OD1     |        | 5.2    |        |
| 258ASP:NH – 258ASP:OD2     |        | 6.75   | 30.4   |
| 260GLN:NE2HE22 – 257SER:O  |        |        | 8.7    |
| 260THR:NH – 258ASP:OD1     | 15.4   |        |        |
| 260THR:NH – 258ASP:OD2     | 5.2    |        |        |
| 260THR:OG1HG1 – 258ASP:OD1 | 19.7   |        |        |
| 260THR:NH – 259GLN:NE2     |        | 6.5    |        |

**Table S2**

Average C $\alpha$  chemical shifts of the HET-s trimer calculated using the program SHIFTX2<sup>1</sup> from the simulations of the HET-s trimer at 298 K and 323 K and of the “free loop” at 323 K, and C $\alpha$  chemical shift values from the initial structure, and measured and random coil values.

| Residue | Molecule 1 |       |                 | Molecule 2 |       |                 | Molecule 3 |       |                 | “Free Loop” | Exp. <sup>2</sup> | Random coil <sup>3</sup> |
|---------|------------|-------|-----------------|------------|-------|-----------------|------------|-------|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
|         | 298 K      | 323 K | Initial struct. | 298 K      | 323 K | Initial struct. | 298 K      | 323 K | Initial struct. | 323 K       |                   |                          |
| 219ILE  | 60.8       | 60.8  | 60.8            | 60.8       | 60.7  | 60.8            | 60.9       | 60.8  | 60.9            |             |                   | 60.6                     |
| 220ASP  | 53.7       | 54.8  | 53.8            | 54.4       | 54.5  | 54.5            | 54.3       | 54.3  | 53.9            |             |                   | 54.1                     |
| 221ALA  | 51.8       | 52.6  | 53.3            | 52.1       | 52.1  | 53.2            | 52.2       | 52.6  | 51.4            |             |                   | 52.7                     |
| 222ILE  | 60.8       | 60.6  | 59.7            | 61.1       | 61.1  | 60.2            | 60.7       | 60.8  | 60.9            |             | 62.0              |                          |
| 223VAL  | 61.6       | 61.2  | 60.6            | 61.8       | 62.8  | 61.4            | 62.7       | 62.6  | 64.8            |             | 59.1              |                          |
| 224GLY  | 46.0       | 45.2  | 46.0            | 45.9       | 45.4  | 46.2            | 45.2       | 45.4  | 43.9            |             | 43.8              |                          |
| 225ARG  | 54.7       | 54.9  | 56.0            | 56.4       | 55.2  | 55.9            | 58.2       | 57.9  | 57.9            |             | 54.7              |                          |
| 226ASN  | 52.5       | 52.7  | 52.3            | 52.5       | 52.6  | 52.5            | 52.6       | 52.5  | 52.2            |             | 52.1              |                          |
| 227SER  | 57.3       | 57.3  | 56.7            | 57.4       | 57.5  | 56.8            | 57.5       | 57.6  | 57.2            |             | 56.8              |                          |
| 228ALA  | 50.9       | 51.1  | 50.2            | 50.8       | 50.8  | 50.2            | 50.6       | 50.8  | 50.9            |             | 49.5              |                          |
| 229LYS  | 57.8       | 57.7  | 57.3            | 57.5       | 57.5  | 57.5            | 57.9       | 57.6  | 58.9            |             | 59.9              |                          |
| 230ASP  | 53.4       | 53.5  | 54.3            | 53.3       | 53.3  | 54.3            | 53.3       | 53.4  | 54.2            |             | 53.2              |                          |
| 231ILE  | 60.5       | 60.8  | 60.0            | 60.8       | 60.8  | 60.0            | 60.7       | 60.7  | 60.0            |             | 60.9              |                          |
| 232ARG  | 54.9       | 54.9  | 55.4            | 54.9       | 55.1  | 55.2            | 55.1       | 55.1  | 55.0            |             | 54.3              |                          |
| 233THR  | 60.8       | 60.2  | 60.1            | 61.1       | 61.0  | 61.0            | 60.7       | 61.5  | 61.1            |             | 59.6              |                          |
| 234GLU  | 55.1       | 56.0  | 55.3            | 55.2       | 55.4  | 54.3            | 56.9       | 55.4  | 54.8            |             | 53.8              |                          |
| 235GLU  | 57.5       | 58.6  | 57.3            | 57.8       | 57.7  | 57.6            | 56.1       | 58.3  | 57.3            |             | 58.7              |                          |
| 236ARG  | 57.0       | 57.1  | 56.6            | 57.1       | 56.2  | 56.6            | 56.9       | 56.8  | 57.1            |             | 54.8              |                          |
| 237ALA  | 51.6       | 52.3  | 50.7            | 52.6       | 52.4  | 51.7            | 51.5       | 51.9  | 52.0            |             | 53.2              |                          |
| 238ARG  | 54.5       | 54.2  | 54.4            | 55.1       | 54.9  | 54.7            | 55.0       | 55.9  | 54.6            |             | 54.7              |                          |
| 239VAL  | 61.4       | 61.6  | 61.0            | 60.3       | 61.1  | 60.9            | 61.0       | 62.1  | 60.9            |             | 60.0              |                          |
| 240GLN  | 55.0       | 55.1  | 55.0            | 54.4       | 54.4  | 54.6            | 54.4       | 54.6  | 54.6            |             | 52.8              |                          |

|        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|--------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 241LEU | 54.4 | 54.4 | 53.3 | 54.1 | 54.1 | 53.3 | 53.8 | 54.2 | 53.0 |      | 52.8 |      |
| 242GLY | 45.5 | 45.3 | 45.1 | 44.7 | 45.1 | 45.2 | 45.4 | 45.2 | 45.1 |      | 43.8 |      |
| 243ASN | 52.2 | 53.3 | 53.1 | 51.4 | 52.1 | 53.2 | 51.8 | 52.0 | 52.8 |      | 51.3 |      |
| 244VAL | 62.2 | 61.9 | 61.2 | 61.5 | 62.1 | 62.0 | 61.2 | 61.0 | 61.2 |      | 62.1 |      |
| 245VAL | 62.3 | 61.6 | 61.2 | 61.1 | 61.6 | 61.1 | 61.3 | 60.7 | 61.1 |      | 61.1 |      |
| 246THR | 62.5 | 61.7 | 61.2 | 60.9 | 60.5 | 61.2 | 63.2 | 62.0 | 61.3 | 62.3 | 62.4 | 62.0 |
| 247ALA | 53.3 | 51.7 | 55.0 | 54.5 | 54.3 | 54.6 | 52.1 | 53.8 | 54.7 | 53.0 | 56.2 | 52.7 |
| 248ALA | 53.4 | 52.8 | 54.1 | 52.8 | 53.5 | 53.9 | 51.8 | 53.1 | 53.8 | 52.3 | 55.1 | 52.7 |
| 249ALA | 53.4 | 53.7 | 53.8 | 51.5 | 52.3 | 53.1 | 51.3 | 51.8 | 53.4 | 52.3 | 53.9 | 52.7 |
| 250LEU | 54.5 | 55.1 | 56.1 | 53.9 | 55.4 | 56.6 | 57.2 | 54.6 | 54.0 | 55.1 | 58.4 | 54.8 |
| 251HIS | 56.4 | 56.0 | 56.5 | 55.0 | 55.4 | 56.4 | 55.7 | 55.5 | 56.4 | 55.5 |      | 55.8 |
| 252GLY | 45.6 | 45.3 | 45.4 | 45.3 | 45.1 | 45.4 | 45.4 | 45.4 | 45.4 | 45.7 |      | 45.3 |
| 253GLY | 45.0 | 45.5 | 44.8 | 45.2 | 45.0 | 44.6 | 45.4 | 45.3 | 45.4 | 45.7 |      | 45.3 |
| 254ILE | 61.1 | 61.5 | 62.6 | 61.5 | 60.8 | 60.1 | 60.9 | 61.5 | 62.9 | 61.0 |      | 60.6 |
| 255ARG | 55.4 | 57.5 | 56.9 | 55.5 | 56.9 | 55.1 | 54.8 | 55.5 | 56.1 | 55.8 |      | 56.0 |
| 256ILE | 60.4 | 60.0 | 60.1 | 60.8 | 60.3 | 60.3 | 59.8 | 60.5 | 62.5 | 61.2 |      | 60.6 |
| 257SER | 58.1 | 58.1 | 59.4 | 58.2 | 57.8 | 58.6 | 58.0 | 58.6 | 57.5 | 58.5 |      | 58.4 |
| 258ASP | 53.4 | 55.9 | 52.6 | 54.8 | 54.4 | 54.8 | 55.0 | 55.5 | 54.1 | 54.3 |      | 54.1 |
| 259GLN | 55.9 | 56.6 | 55.8 | 54.2 | 54.6 | 55.2 | 56.8 | 56.1 | 56.5 | 55.5 | 55.0 | 56.0 |
| 260THR | 63.1 | 61.0 | 60.9 | 62.2 | 62.4 | 64.1 | 61.3 | 61.9 | 60.9 | 62.1 | 66.2 | 61.6 |
| 261THR | 61.8 | 62.0 | 61.8 | 62.2 | 62.6 | 61.4 | 62.3 | 61.8 | 62.1 | 62.7 | 61.2 | 61.6 |
| 262ASN | 52.8 | 52.3 | 52.2 | 52.3 | 52.8 | 52.2 | 52.2 | 52.3 | 52.2 |      | 52.4 |      |
| 263SER | 57.6 | 57.4 | 57.3 | 57.5 | 57.5 | 57.5 | 57.3 | 57.4 | 57.5 |      | 56.5 |      |
| 264VAL | 60.9 | 60.8 | 59.4 | 60.3 | 60.5 | 59.5 | 60.3 | 60.4 | 59.2 |      | 57.1 |      |
| 265GLU | 58.0 | 58.2 | 57.8 | 57.8 | 57.9 | 58.2 | 58.2 | 58.3 | 57.4 |      | 59.5 |      |
| 266THR | 61.3 | 61.3 | 62.1 | 61.2 | 61.4 | 61.8 | 61.2 | 61.2 | 60.7 |      | 60.9 |      |
| 267VAL | 61.6 | 61.5 | 61.1 | 61.6 | 61.8 | 61.1 | 61.6 | 61.7 | 60.3 |      | 60.7 |      |
| 268VAL | 61.5 | 61.5 | 61.1 | 61.4 | 61.6 | 61.2 | 61.1 | 61.0 | 60.9 |      | 61.2 |      |
| 269GLY | 45.1 | 45.0 | 45.0 | 44.7 | 45.1 | 45.0 | 45.1 | 45.4 | 44.7 |      | 44.6 |      |
| 270LYS | 55.0 | 55.1 | 54.6 | 55.0 | 55.1 | 54.7 | 55.1 | 55.5 | 54.8 |      | 54.3 |      |
| 271GLY | 46.2 | 46.1 | 46.2 | 46.3 | 45.6 | 46.1 | 46.3 | 46.0 | 46.3 |      | 48.5 |      |
| 272GLU | 57.4 | 55.8 | 56.8 | 56.4 | 56.4 | 56.8 | 56.1 | 57.1 | 57.0 |      | 54.2 |      |
| 273SER | 58.2 | 58.4 | 57.6 | 58.1 | 58.1 | 58.2 | 58.4 | 58.5 | 58.2 |      | 59.3 |      |
| 274ARG | 54.8 | 55.0 | 55.2 | 55.3 | 55.7 | 55.2 | 55.3 | 55.4 | 55.3 |      | 54.9 |      |
| 275VAL | 61.3 | 61.3 | 61.1 | 61.4 | 61.7 | 61.0 | 60.8 | 61.0 | 60.9 |      | 60.3 |      |

|        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|--------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 276LEU | 54.2 | 54.2 | 53.5 | 54.1 | 54.1 | 53.4 | 53.4 | 53.6 | 53.6 | 52.7 |
| 277ILE | 60.3 | 60.3 | 60.1 | 60.2 | 60.3 | 60.1 | 60.1 | 60.3 | 59.9 | 58.7 |
| 278GLY | 45.2 | 44.7 | 44.7 | 45.6 | 45.4 | 44.3 | 45.1 | 45.4 | 44.5 | 44.0 |
| 279ASN | 51.7 | 52.8 | 52.9 | 52.7 | 51.9 | 52.3 | 52.3 | 52.3 | 51.7 | 51.9 |
| 280GLU | 55.1 | 55.2 | 54.4 | 55.2 | 55.4 | 54.5 | 55.7 | 58.0 | 54.8 | 54.6 |
| 281TYR | 56.4 | 57.5 | 56.3 | 56.9 | 57.3 | 55.7 | 57.3 | 57.8 | 56.7 | 56.1 |
| 282GLY | 45.5 | 45.1 | 45.2 | 44.4 | 44.6 | 45.2 | 45.9 | 45.3 | 44.6 | 46.1 |
| 283GLY | 45.8 | 46.1 | 45.4 | 46.0 | 46.2 | 46.1 | 45.4 | 46.3 | 44.9 | 43.9 |
| 284LYS | 56.5 | 56.1 | 56.1 | 55.8 | 57.0 | 57.5 | 55.8 | 56.7 | 56.0 | 57.3 |
| 285GLY | 44.9 | 45.5 | 45.7 | 45.8 | 45.4 | 45.2 | 45.2 | 45.6 | 46.0 | 44.3 |
| 286PHE | 57.5 | 57.4 | 57.7 | 58.0 | 57.1 | 58.7 | 58.1 | 57.2 | 57.0 | 59.7 |
| 287TRP | 58.1 | 57.8 | 59.8 | 57.6 | 60.0 | 58.1 | 57.1 | 58.2 | 59.8 | 57.4 |
| 288ASP | 54.5 | 54.0 | 53.9 | 53.5 | 54.9 | 53.6 | 54.5 | 54.5 | 54.1 | 54.1 |
| 289ASN | 54.6 | 54.6 | 54.4 | 54.5 | 54.8 | 54.6 | 54.7 | 54.5 | 54.3 | 53.0 |

---

#### References:

- 1 B. Han, Y. Liu, S. W. Ginzinger and D. S. Wishart, *J. Biomol. NMR*, 2011, **50**, 43–57.
- 2 A. Lange, Z. Gattin, H. Van Melckebeke, C. Wasmer, A. Soragni, W. F. van Gunsteren and B. H. Meier, *ChemBioChem*, 2009, **10**, 1657–1665 (BMRB ID 11064).
- 3 Y. Wang and O. Jardetzky, *Protein Sci.*, 2002, **11**, 852–861.